#### CHAPTER 21A—FORFEITURE OF NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD INDEMNITY **GRANTS**

#### §§ 921 to 929. Omitted

#### CODIFICATION

Section 921, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, §1, 46 Stat. 41, related to forfeiture of any and all lands within indemnity limits of land grants to the Northern Pacific Rail-

Section 922, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, § 2, 46 Stat. 42, related to forfeiture of all unsatisfied indemnity selec-

Section 923, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, §3, 46 Stat. 42, related to effect of provisions of this chapter on various prior statutory provisions affecting the railroad.

Section 924, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, § 4, 46 Stat. 42, related to effect of provisions of this chapter on title to rights of way actually in use by railroad.

Section 925, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, §5, 46 Stat. 42, authorized Attorney General to institute and prosecute all suits affecting title to lands.

Section 926, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, § 6, 46 Stat. 43, related to restitution by railroads of lands which were not earned or erroneously credited.

Section 927, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, § 7, 46 Stat. 43, related to jurisdiction of suits.

Section 928, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, § 8, 46 Stat. 44, related to reports and recommendations to Congress concerning final determinations in such actions.

Section 929, act June 25, 1929, ch. 41, § 9, 46 Stat. 44, related to withholding of approval of adjustments of land grants pending final determination of actions.

#### CHAPTER 22—RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND OTHER EASEMENTS IN PUBLIC LANDS

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### § 931. Navigable rivers as public highways

All navigable rivers, within the territory occupied by the public lands, shall remain and be deemed public highways; and, in all cases where the opposite banks of any streams not navigable belong to different persons, the stream and the bed thereof shall become common to both.

(R.S. §2476.)

### CODIFICATION

R.S. §2476 derived from acts May 18, 1796, ch. 29, §9, 1 Stat. 468; Mar. 3, 1803, ch. 27, §17, 2 Stat. 235.

# §931a. Authority of Attorney General to grant easements and rights-of-way to States, etc.

The Attorney General, whenever he deems it advantageous to the Government and upon such terms and conditions as he deems advisable, is authorized on behalf of the United States to grant to any State, or any agency or political subdivision thereof, easements in and rights-ofway over lands belonging to the United States which are under his supervision and control. Such grant may include the use of such easements or rights-of-way by public utilities to the extent authorized and under the conditions imposed by the laws of such State relating to use of public highways. Such partial, concurrent, or exclusive jurisdiction over the areas covered by such easements or rights-of-way, as the Attornev General deems necessary or desirable, is ceded to such State. The Attorney General is authorized to accept or secure on behalf of the United States from the State in which is situated any land conveyed in exchange for any such easement or right-of-way, such jurisdiction as he may deem necessary or desirable over the land so acquired.

(May 9, 1941, ch. 94, 55 Stat. 183.)

### § 931b. Repealed. Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, § 53, 70A Stat. 641

Section, act July 24, 1946, ch. 596, §7, 60 Stat. 643, authorized Secretary of War to grant easements and rights-of-way to States, etc. See section 2668 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

## § 931c. Permits, leases, or easements; authorization to grant; payment; limitation

The head of any department or agency of the Government of the United States having jurisdiction over public lands and national forests, except national parks and monuments, of the United States is authorized to grant permits, leases, or easements, in return for the payment of a price representing the fair market value of such permit, lease, or easement, to be fixed by such head of such department or agency through appraisal, for a period not to exceed thirty years from the date of any such permit, lease, or easement to States, counties, cities, towns, townships, municipal corporations, or other public agencies for the purpose of constructing and maintaining on such lands public buildings or other public works. In the event such lands cease to be used for the purpose for which such permit, lease, or easement was granted, the same shall thereupon terminate.

(Sept. 3, 1954, ch. 1255, §1, 68 Stat. 1146.)

### REPEAL OF SECTION

Section repealed by Pub. L. 94–579, title VII, § 706(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2793, effective on and after Oct. 21, 1976, insofar as applicable to the issuance of rights-of-way over, upon, under, and through the public lands and lands in the National Forest System.

### SAVINGS PROVISION

Repeal by Pub. L. 94–579 insofar as applicable to the issuance of rights-of-way not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94–579, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

#### EXISTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Provisions of section 706(a) of Pub. L. 94–579, except as pertaining to rights-of-way, not to be construed as affecting the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture under this section, see section 706(b) of Pub. L. 94–579, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

## § 931d. Additional authority of department or agency head

The authority conferred by section 931c of this title shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of any authority heretofore conferred upon the head of any department or agency of the Government of the United States to grant permits, leases, easements, or rights-of-way.

(Sept. 3, 1954, ch. 1255, §2, 68 Stat. 1146.)

## § 932. Repealed. Pub. L. 94–579, title VII, § 706(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2793

Section, R.S. §2477, authorized rights of way for construction of highways over public lands not reserved for public uses.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Section 706(a) of Pub. L. 94-579 provided that the repeal made by that section is effective on and after Oct. 21, 1976.

#### SAVINGS PROVISION

Repeal by Pub. L. 94-579 not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94-579, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

#### REGULATIONS AFFECTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Pub. L. 104–208, div. A, title I, §101(d) [title I, §108], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009–181, 3009–200, provided that: "No final rule or regulation of any agency of the Federal Government pertaining to the recognition, management, or validity of a right-of-way pursuant to Revised Statute 2477 ([former] 43 U.S.C. 932) shall take effect unless expressly authorized by an Act of Congress subsequent to the date of enactment of this Act [Sept. 30, 1996]."

### § 933. Repealed. Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, § 53, 70A Stat. 641

Section, act July 5, 1884, ch. 214, §6, 23 Stat. 104, related to powers of Secretary of War to permit extension of roads across military reservations, landing of ferries, erection of bridges, and driving of livestock. See sections 4777 and 9777 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

### § 934. Right of way through public lands granted to railroads

The right of way through the public lands of the United States is granted to any railroad company duly organized under the laws of any State or Territory, except the District of Columbia, or by the Congress of the United States, which shall have filed with the Secretary of the Interior a copy of its articles of incorporation. and due proofs of its organization under the same, to the extent of one hundred feet on each side of the central line of said road; also the right to take, from the public lands adjacent to the line of said road, material, earth, stone, and timber necessary for the construction of said railroad; also ground adjacent to such right of way for station buildings, depots, machine shops, side tracks, turnouts, and water stations, not to exceed in amount twenty acres for each