

proved the twenty-sixth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five, entitled "An act to amend section two of the act, approved the eighth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, one hundred and forty-eight), entitled 'An act providing for the joint acquisition and maintenance by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey of certain toll-bridges over the Delaware River,' as amended," to act in conjunction with a similar commission of the State of New Jersey as a joint commission for the acquisition of the various toll-bridges over the Delaware River between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey, for the purpose of acquiring additional toll-bridges and maintaining such toll-bridges as have already been acquired or may hereafter be acquired under the provisions of the act, approved the eighth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, one hundred and forty-eight), entitled "An act providing for the joint acquisition and maintenance by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey of certain toll-bridges over the Delaware River."

The amount herein appropriated shall be available until the purposes for which appropriated have been accomplished, and shall not be held or construed to have lapsed for the reason that the same was not used within a specified time after the passage of this act.

Availability.

APPROVED—The 14th day of May, A. D. 1925.

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

No. 398.

### AN ACT

Fixing the salary of the clerks of the courts of common pleas in counties of the first class.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the salary of the assistants appointed by the prothonotary of the court of common pleas of counties of the first class, which assistants are designated and known as court clerks, shall be five thousand dollars per annum, payable in equal monthly installments from the county treasury.

Counties of the first class.

Salaries of court clerks.

Repeal.

Section 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED—The 14th day of May, A. D. 1925.

In approving this bill I desire to point out that my action is consistent with the principle followed in my recent disapproval of a number of bills which increase the salaries of officers or employes who are paid out of county or city treasuries. That principle is that the Legislature ought not to fix salaries of local employes which must be paid out of local treasuries, but that the local tax-levying authorities should be allowed to determine and fix the compensation of such employes, except in cases in which the Commonwealth has an interest in the proper administration of the work of local officers or employes, which is paramount to the home rule principle just stated. One of these exceptions must very obviously be the compensation of employes of the courts.

For this reason the only question before me in connection with this bill is whether five thousand dollars per annum is proper compensation for the clerks of the courts of common pleas in counties of the first class. I am satisfied that this compensation is not excessive and therefore approve the bill.

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

No. 399.

### AN ACT

For the protection of the public health in the manufacture and sale of carbonated beverages and still drinks; providing for the registration thereof; prohibiting the sale, offering or exposing for sale, exchange or giving away thereof in certain cases unless registered; regulating the manufacture, bottling, preparation, mixing, and compounding of carbonated beverages or still drinks, and the sale and dispensing thereof; creating a special fund in the State Treasury; and providing penalties.

Manufacture and sale of carbonated beverages and still drinks.

Definitions.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the term "carbonated beverages" or "still drinks," as used in this act, shall include all carbonated beverages or still drinks, fruit juices, and mineral waters when ready for use as a beverage, whether still or carbonated, and whether simple, mixed, or compounded. The term shall not include natural apple cider or unfermented grape juice.

The word "person" shall include individuals, associations, copartnerships, and corporations.

The singular shall include the plural; the masculine shall include the feminine and neuter.

Unlawful to sell or give away unless registered.

Section 2. It is unlawful for any person to sell, offer, or expose for sale or exchange or give away any carbonated beverage or still drink, except such as is manufactured, prepared, mixed, or compounded by himself, unless the same has been registered with the Department of Agriculture.

Registration.

Section 3. Any person, whether a resident or non-resident of this Commonwealth, manufacturing or bottling any carbonated beverages or still drinks shall reg-