A BILL

To amend the Act entitled "An Act For the grading and classification of clerks in the Foreign Service of the United States of America, and providing compensation therefor", approved February 23, 1931.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act For the grading and classification of clerks in the Foreign Service of the United States of America, and providing compensation therefor", approved February 23, 1931, be, and the same is hereby, amended as follows:

Sec. 2. Section 21 of said Act is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 21. That any Foreign Service officer may be assigned for duty in the Department of State, or, with the approval of the President in the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Commerce, without loss of class or salary, such assignment to be for a period of not more than three years, unless the public interests demand further service, when such assignment may be extended for a period not to exceed one year. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1742 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, any ambassador or minister or any Foreign Service officer of whatever class detailed for duty in connection with trade conferences or international gatherings, congresses, or conferences, or for other special duty not at his post or in the Department of State, except tempor-
arily for purposes of consultation, shall be paid his salary and expenses for travel and subsistence at the rates prescribed by law."

Sec. 3. Insert at the end of said Act a new section, as follows:

"Sec. 33. The President is hereby authorized, by the issuance of such Executive orders as may be necessary within two years from the date of the enactment of this Act, to transfer to the Department of State, to function under the jurisdiction and administration of the Secretary of State as a part of the Foreign Service of the United States as established by the Act of February 23, 1931, and amendments thereto, and subject to all the provisions thereof, the Foreign Commerce Service of the United States as established under the Act approved March 3, 1927, entitled 'An Act to establish in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce a Foreign Commerce Service of the United States, and for other purposes', as amended by the Act approved April 12, 1930, and the Foreign Agricultural Service of the United States, as established under the Act approved June 5, 1930, entitled 'An Act To promote the agriculture of the United States by expanding in the foreign field the service now rendered by the United States Department of Agriculture in acquiring and diffusing useful information regarding agriculture, and for other purposes'. The authority hereby vested in the Pres-
ident includes the promulgation of Executive orders for the transfer or other disposition of records, property, personnel, and appropriations or unexpended balances thereof and for the establishment of such other rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this section and the promulgation of Executive orders to carry into effect the following specific purposes:

"(a) A committee shall be established, of which the Secretary of State shall be chairman and the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Agriculture members, composed of representatives of departments and agencies of the Government interested in information from the foreign field, which shall consider and make recommendations on economic and commercial policy and which shall coordinate the needs and requests of the departments and agencies of the Government for information from the foreign field, and transmit the same to the Secretary of State for appropriate action.

"(b) The provisions of the Act of February 23, 1931, which establish the Foreign Service retirement and disability system and Acts amendatory thereof, shall be extended to apply to Foreign Commerce officers and officers of the Foreign Agricultural Service transferred to the Department of State by this Act to be a part of the Foreign Service of the United States, on the same terms and conditions provided in the aforesaid Act of February 23, 1931,
as amended, as are applicable to Foreign Service officers appointed by the President by transfer to the Foreign Service of the United States after five years of continuous service in an executive or quasi executive position in the Department of State:

Provided, that service as a Foreign Commerce officer or as an officer of the Foreign Agricultural Service prior to appointment as a Foreign Service officer under the provisions of this Act may be included in the period of service on which the retirement annuities of such officers shall be computed, in which case the officer shall pay into the Foreign Service retirement and disability fund a special contribution equal to 5 per centum of his annual salary for each year of such employment with interest thereon to date of payment compounded annually at 4 per centum, but such payments may be made in installments under regulations promulgated by the Secretary of State and no such officer shall be required to make such a special contribution if he elects to claim no credit for purposes of retirement for such periods of service.

"(c) Foreign Commerce officers and officers of the Foreign Agricultural Service transferred to the Department of State in accordance with the provisions of this Act shall be eligible to the classification, salaries and allowances established for Foreign Service officers by the provisions of the Act of February 23, 1931, as amended, except
that the existing classification and salaries of Foreign Commerce officers, as established under the Act of March 3, 1927, as amended by the Act of April 12, 1930, and of officers of the Foreign Agricultural Service under the Act of June 5, 1930, may be continued for such period as may be necessary to effect their reclassification as Foreign Service officers and to establish regulations to provide therefor in a manner that will assure the performance of the duties and functions now vested by law in Foreign Commerce officers and officers of the Foreign Agricultural Service, by Foreign Service officers having suitable qualifications for the performance of these particular duties and functions.

"All acts or parts of Acts relating to Foreign Commerce officers and officers of the Foreign Agricultural Service, which are inconsistent with the provisions and purposes of this Act are hereby repealed and all such Acts or parts of Acts not inconsistent with the provisions and purposes of this Act shall remain in full force and effect and shall be administered by the Secretary of State.

"This Act shall take effect immediately."