

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 20, September 25, 1946]

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX, THIRTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-FIVE, SUBSECTION (c), AND THIRTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHT OF THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section twelve hundred and fifty-six of the Revised Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1256. *Disposition of merchandise remaining on vessel after time for unloading.*—Merchandise remaining on board any vessel after the expiration of the said period for discharge, and not reported for transshipment to another port, may be unladen by the customs authorities and store at the vessel's expense.

"Merchandise so stored may be claimed and entered at time within fifteen days after discharge or such longer period not beyond thirty days as the Insular Collector shall approve. If not entered it shall be sold at public auction at the next ensuing regular sale, though at any time prior may be entered for consumption or warehouse, and be withdrawn upon payment of duty and expenses."

SEC. 2. Subsection (c) of section thirteen hundred and ninety-five of the Revised Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(c) Merchandise of which entry is not made within fifteen days after discharge; or which, having been entered is not claimed within fifteen days thereafter: *Provided*, That in justifiable cases, or when public interests so require, the Collector of Customs may, in his discretion, grant an extension of not more than fifteen days."

SEC. 3. Section thirteen hundred and ninety-eight of the Revised Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1398. *Disposition of surplus.*—In the case of abandoned and forfeited goods no part of the surplus proceeds shall be returned to the owner of the merchandise. In case of the sale of other property, any surplus remaining after the satisfaction of all lawful charges as aforesaid shall be paid by the Collector to the owner, if known, otherwise it shall be retained by the Collector for ten days subject to the call of the owner. Upon the failure of the owner to make demand within this period, the Collector shall deposit such surplus with the Treasurer of the Philippines as a special deposit, to be paid to the proper claimant demanding the