[§ 406]

Evidence of Performance of Mail Service

(g) Air carriers transporting or handling United States mail shall submit, under signature of a duly authorized official, when and in such form as may be required by the Postmaster General, evidence of the performance of mail service; and air carriers transporting or handling mails of foreign countries shall submit, under signature of a duly authorized official, when and in such form as may be required by the Postmaster General, evidence of the amount of such mails transported or handled, and the compensation payable and received therefor.

Emergency Mail Service

(h) In the event of emergency caused by flood, fire, or other calamitous visitation, the Postmaster General is authorized to contract, without advertising, for the transportation by aircraft of any or all classes of mail to or from localities affected by such calamity, where available facilities of persons authorized to transport mail to or from such localities are inadequate to meet the requirements of the Postal Service during such emergency. Such contracts may be only for such periods as may be necessitated, for the maintenance of mail service, by the inadequacy of such other facilities. No operation pursuant to any such contract, for such period, shall be air transportation within the purview of this Act. Payment of compensation for service performed under such contracts shall be made, at rates provided in such contracts, from appropriations for the transportation of mail by the means normally used for transporting the mail transported under such contracts.

Experimental Airmail Service

(i) Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to repeal in whole or in part the provisions of section 6 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for experimental airmail service, to further develop safety, efficiency, economy, and for other purposes", approved April 15, 1938, as amended. The transportation of mail under contracts entered into under such section shall not, except for sections 401(k) and 416(b), be deemed to be "air transportation" as used in this Act, and the rates of compensation for such transportation of mail shall not be fixed under this Act.

Free Travel for Postal Employees

(j) Every air carrier carrying the mails shall carry on any plane that it operates and without charge therefor, the persons in charge of the mails when on duty, and such duly accredited agents and officers of the Post Office Department, and post office inspectors, while traveling on official business relating to the transportation of mail by aircraft, as the Board may by regulation prescribe, upon the exhibition of their credentials.

RATES FOR TRANSPORTATION OF MAIL

Authority to Fix Rates

Sec. 406. [72 Stat. 763, as amended by 76 Stat. 145, 49 U.S.C. 1376] (a) The Board is empowered and directed, upon its own initiative or