

as such clerk: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy may waive the giving of bond in the cases of Navy mail clerks and assistant Navy mail clerks. Navy mail clerks and assistant Navy mail clerks whose bonds are so waived shall not be entitled to the extra compensation otherwise authorized to be paid them by law. The Post Office Department shall be reimbursed annually by the Navy Department in an amount equal to funds embezzled by unbonded Navy mail clerks, assistant Navy mail clerks, and commissioned officers of the Navy and Marine Corps, and funds expended in payment of claims arising from errors, losses, or defalcations by unbonded Navy mail clerks, assistant Navy mail clerks, and commissioned officers of the Navy and Marine Corps: *Provided further*, That 'commissioned officers of the Navy and Marine Corps' as used in the foregoing provision shall be construed to mean only those commissioned officers of the Navy and Marine Corps who have been designated custodians of postal effects by the commanding officer."

Waiver of requirement.

Reimbursements.

"Commissioned officers."

Appropriation authorized.

SEC. 2. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Approved June 17, 1948.

[CHAPTER 494]

AN ACT

Providing for the suspension of annual assessment work on mining claims held by location in the United States.

June 17, 1948

[S. 2479]

[Public Law 665]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provision of section 2324 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which requires on each mining claim located, and until a patent has been issued therefor, not less than \$100 worth of labor to be performed or improvements aggregating such amount to be made each year, be, and the same is hereby, suspended as to all mining claims in the United States, until the hour of 12 o'clock meridian on the 1st day of July, 1948: *Provided*, That every claimant of any such mining claim in order to obtain the benefits of this Act shall file, or cause to be filed, in the office where the location notice or certificate is recorded, on or before 12 o'clock meridian of July 1, 1948, a notice of his desire to hold said mining claim under this Act.

Mining claims.
Suspension of annual assessment work.
50 U. S. C. § 28.

Approved June 17, 1948.

[CHAPTER 495]

AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance to Pinellas County, State of Florida, of certain public lands herein described.

June 17, 1948

[S. 2496]

[Public Law 666]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the following described public lands in the State of Florida, to wit: Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 of section 5; lots 1 and 2 of section 6; lots 1, 2, and 3 of section 7; lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 of section 8; lots 1 and 2 of section 9; lot 1 of section 17; and lots 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of section 18 in township 33 south, range 16 east, together with accretion thereto, shall be conveyed to Pinellas County, State of Florida, when it shall be determined that it is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was reserved by Presidential orders of March 23, 1849, and November 17, 1882, or is not needed for the purposes as set forth in Executive Order Numbered 9151, April 28, 1942, and that the Secretary of the Interior is hereby

Pinellas County,
Fla.
Conveyance.

authorized and directed to sell the said land, and to execute the proper conveyances to Pinellas County, State of Florida, with a reservation to the United States of all minerals in said lands and the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. The consideration for such conveyance shall be—

(a) with respect to that portion of said lands which was originally purchased by said county from the Treasury Department in 1938 and thereafter was reconveyed by it to the War Department in 1941, the sum received by said county from the War Department in consideration for such reconveyance; and

(b) with respect to the remainder of said lands, 50 per centum of the reasonable appraised value thereof, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

Use of land.

SEC. 2. The property acquired pursuant to section 1 shall be retained by the said Pinellas County and be used by it for such purposes as it shall deem to be in the public interest or be leased by it from time to time, in whole or in part or parts, to such persons and for such purposes as it shall deem to be in the public interest and upon such terms and conditions as it shall fix and always to be subject to regulation by said county whether leased or not leased but never to be otherwise disposed of or conveyed by it: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall prevent the said county from conveying said property back to the Federal Government or to the State of Florida or any agency thereof.

Approved June 17, 1948.

[CHAPTER 496]

AN ACT

To revise the method of issuing patents for public lands.

June 17, 1948

[H. R. 3628]

[Public Law 667]

Patents for public lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all patents for public lands shall be issued and signed by the Secretary of the Interior in the name of the United States: *Provided*, That the Secretary may delegate his authority under this Act to officers or employees of the Department of the Interior, but notice of any such delegation shall be given by publication in the Federal Register.

Repeals.

SEC. 2. The following are hereby repealed:

(a) Section 450, Revised Statutes (43 U. S. C., sec. 8).

(b) Section 451, Revised Statutes (43 U. S. C., sec. 9).

(c) Section 458, Revised Statutes (43 U. S. C., sec. 15).

(d) That part of the Act of June 19, 1878 (20 Stat. 178, 183), which reads as follows: "And the duties prescribed by section of the Revised Statutes numbered four hundred and fifty shall devolve upon and be discharged by one of the executive clerks, to be designated by the President for that purpose."

Approved June 17, 1948.

[CHAPTER 497]

AN ACT

To amend certain provisions of law relating to the naval service so as to authorize the delegation to the Secretary of the Navy of certain discretionary powers vested in the President of the United States.

June 17, 1948

[H. R. 4032]

[Public Law 668]

Navy.
Delegation of certain powers to Secretary of Navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following Acts or parts of Acts are hereby amended by striking out the word "President", wherever it appears, and substituting in lieu thereof the words "Secretary of the Navy":