

Provisos.
Laws repealed.

Naval Volunteers.
Service of officers on
courts martial.
Vol. 39, p. 597, re-
pealed.

Naval Militia.

Service of officers on
courts martial.
Vol. 38, p. 285, re-
pealed.

Conflicting laws re-
pealed.

Coast Guard, Lighthouse Service, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service are hereby empowered to serve on naval courts-martial and deck courts under such regulations necessary for the proper administration of justice and in the interests of the services involved, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy: *Provided*, That so much of the Act approved August twenty-ninth, nineteen hundred and sixteen (Thirty-ninth Statutes, page five hundred and fifty-six), as reads as follows:

"That when serving under the call of the President, officers of said Volunteers may serve on courts-martial for the trial of officers and men of the United States Naval or Naval Militia service, or of said Volunteers, but in the cases of courts-martial convened for the trial of officers or enlisted men of the United States Navy or Marine Corps, the majority of the members shall be officers of the Regular Naval service, and officers and enlisted men of the said Volunteers may be tried by courts-martial, the members of which are members of the Regular Naval service, or of said Volunteers, or any or all of the same," is hereby repealed.

Provided further, That so much of the Naval Militia Act of February sixteenth, nineteen hundred and fourteen (Thirty-eighth Statutes, page two hundred and eighty-three), as reads as follows:

"That when in the service of the United States officers of the Naval Militia may serve on courts-martial for the trial of officers and men of the Regular or Naval Militia service, but in the cases of courts-martial convened for the trial of officers of the Regular service, the majority of the members shall be officers of the Regular service; and officers and men of the Naval Militia may be tried by courts-martial the members of which are officers of the Regular or Naval Militia service, or both," is hereby repealed.

And provided further, That any Act or parts of Acts in conflict with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Approved, October 6, 1917.

October 6, 1917.
[S. 2527.]

[Public, No. 79.]

Army.
Chaplains at large.
Number increased
during the war.
Vol. 39, p. 176.

Proviso.
Only citizens eligible.

CHAP. 94.—An Act Authorizing appointment of chaplains at large for the United States Army.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President may appoint for service during the present emergency not exceeding twenty chaplains at large for the United States Army representing religious sects not recognized in the apportionment of chaplains now recognized by law: *Provided*, That no person shall be eligible to such appointment unless he be at the time of his appointment a citizen of the United States.

Approved, October 6, 1917.

October 6, 1917.
[S. 2531.]

[Public, No. 80.]

Patents.
Withheld during war
if disclosure of inven-
tion detrimental, etc.
Post, p. 422.

Proviso.
Held to be aban-
doned if published, etc.

CHAP. 95.—An Act To prevent the publication of inventions by the grant of patents that might be detrimental to the public safety or convey useful information to the enemy, to stimulate invention, and provide adequate protection to owners of patents, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever during a time when the United States is at war the publication of an invention by the granting of a patent might, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Patents, be detrimental to the public safety or defense or might assist the enemy or endanger the successful prosecution of the war he may order that the invention be kept secret and withhold the grant of a patent until the termination of the war: *Provided*, That the invention disclosed in the application for said patent may be