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purpose of such investigation the said H. L. Cloud, his heirs, legal representatives, and assigns, shall make available all of its records in connection with the construction, financing, and promotion of the bridge, which shall be conclusive for the purposes mentioned in section 2 of this Act, subject only to review in a court of equity for fraud or gross mistake.

Findings of Secretary conclusive.

Right to sell, etc., conferred.

SEC. 5. The right to sell, assign, transfer, and mortgage all the rights, powers, and privileges conferred by this Act is hereby granted to H. L. Cloud, his heirs, legal representatives, and assigns; and any corporation to which or any person to whom such rights, powers, and privileges may be sold, assigned, or transferred, or who shall acquire the same by mortgage foreclosure or otherwise, is hereby authorized and empowered to exercise the same as fully as though conferred herein directly upon such corporation or person.

Construction contracts to be let to lowest bidder.

Advertising, etc.

SEC. 6. All contracts made in connection with the construction of the bridge authorized by this Act and which involve the expenditure of more than $5,000 shall be let by competitive bidding. Such contracts shall be advertised for a reasonable time in some newspaper of general circulation published in the State in which the bridge is located and in the vicinity thereof; sealed bids shall be required and the contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Verified copies or abstracts of all bids received and of the bid or bids accepted shall be promptly furnished to the highway department of the State in which such bridge is located. A failure to comply in good faith with the provisions of this section shall render null and void any contract made in violation thereof, and the Secretary of War may, after hearings, order the suspension of all work upon such bridge until the provisions of this section shall have been fully complied with.

Contract void for violations.

Amendment.

SEC. 7. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 4, 1929.

March 4, 1929.
[S. 5730.]
[Public, No. 1015.]

CHAP. 687.—An Act To supplement the last three paragraphs of section 5 of the Act of March 4, 1915 (Thirty-eighth Statutes, page 1161), as amended by the Act of March 21, 1918 (Fortieth Statutes, page 458).

Public lands.
Desert land entries.

Entryman, if no prospect of securing water, on paying 50 cents an acre, and $1.50 in one year, may have patent issued to him.

Vol. 38, p. 1161, amended.

Vol. 40, p. 458.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That where it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior with reference to any lawful pending desert-land entry made prior to July 1, 1922, under which the entryman or his duly qualified assignee under an assignment made prior to the date of this Act has in good faith expended the sum of $3 per acre in the attempt to effect reclamation of the land, that there is no reasonable prospect that he would be able to secure water sufficient to effect reclamation of the irrigable land in his entry or any legal subdivision thereof, the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, allow such entryman or assignee ninety days from notice within which to pay to the register of the United States Land Office 50 cents an acre for the land embraced in the entry and to file an election to perfect title to the entry under the provisions of this Act, and thereafter within one year from the date of the filing of such election to pay to the register the additional amount of $1.50 an acre, which shall entitle him to a patent for the land: *Provided*, That in case the final payment be not made within the time prescribed the entry shall be canceled and all money theretofore paid shall be forfeited.

Proviso.
Entry canceled if final payment not made.

Approved, March 4, 1929.