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as closely to the requirements of the applicable statutes as the Secretary shall find to be feasible.

Notice of findings, etc.

SEC. 2. When the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of the Treasury, or such official or officials as either may designate, shall make any finding or certification as prescribed in section 1, notice of such finding or certification and the character and position of the lights to be displayed on such vessel shall be published in "Notice to Mariners".

Expiration date.

SEC. 3. This Act shall expire on June 30, 1948.

Approved December 3, 1945.

[CHAPTER 512]

AN ACT

Authorizing payments of rewards to postal employees for inventions.

December 3, 1945
[H. R. 744]
[Public Law 240]

Postal employees. Cash rewards for useful inventions, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster General is authorized, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, to pay a cash reward for any invention, suggestion, or series of suggestions submitted by one or more employees of the Post Office Department or the Postal Service, which will clearly effect a material economy or increase efficiency in the administration or operation of the Post Office Department or the Postal Service, and which has been adopted for use.

Limitations.

The total amount of rewards made under this Act in any one fiscal year shall not exceed $25,000 and the amount so paid for any one invention, suggestion, or series of suggestions shall not exceed $1,000.

Payments.

Rewards made under this Act shall be paid out of the appropriation for the postal activity primarily benefiting, or may be distributed among appropriations for postal activities benefiting, as the Postmaster General may determine. Payments shall be in addition to the regular compensation of the employee receiving the reward. No employee shall be paid a reward under this Act until he has properly executed an agreement to the effect that the use by the United States of the invention, suggestion, or series of suggestions made by him shall not form the basis of a further claim of any nature upon the United States by him, his heirs, or assigns.

Agreement.

Approved December 3, 1945.

[CHAPTER 513]

AN ACT

To provide that veterans may obtain copies of public records in the District of Columbia, without the payment of any fees, for use in presenting claims to the Veterans' Administration.

December 3, 1945
[H. R. 3868]
[Public Law 241]

District of Columbia. Public records; copies for veterans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when a copy of any public record of the District of Columbia is required by the Veterans' Administration to be used in determining the eligibility of any person to participate in benefits made available by the Veterans' Administration, the official custodian of such public record shall without charge provide the applicant for such benefits or any person (including any veterans' organization) acting on his behalf or the authorized representative of the Veterans' Administration with a certified copy of such record.

Approved December 3, 1945.