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The proration and total cost per annum of thirteen thousand ($13,000.00) dollars, above mentioned, is estimative only, for initial operations, and may be changed when found necessary by the commission and approved by the legislatures of the respective states. Each state party hereto agrees to provide in the manner most acceptable to it, the travel costs and necessary expenses of its commissioners and other representatives to and from meetings of the commission or its duly constituted sections or committees.

ARTICLE XIII

This compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each compacting state until renounced by act of the legislature of such state, in such form as it may choose; provided that such renunciation shall not become effective until six months after the effective date of the action taken by the legislature. Notice of such renunciation shall be given to the other states party thereto by the secretary of state of the compacting state so renouncing upon passage of the act.

Approved May 19, 1949.

[CHAPTER 133]

AN ACT

To provide that all employees of the Veterans' Canteen Service shall be paid from funds of the Service, and for other purposes.

May 21, 1949
[S. 1185]
[Public Law 67]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsections (d) and (e) of section 2 of the Act of August 7, 1946 (60 Stat. 888, 38 U. S. C. 13a), are amended to read as follows:

Veterans' Canteen Service.

"(d) To transfer to the Service without charge, rental, or reimbursement such necessary equipment as may not be needed for other purposes, and furnish the Service such services and utilities, including light, water, and heat, as may be available and necessary for its use: *Provided*, That reasonable charges, to be determined by the Administrator, shall be paid annually by the Service for the utilities so furnished.

Equipment and utilities.

"(e) To employ such persons as are necessary for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the Service, and to pay the salaries, wages, and expenses of all such employees from the funds of the Service. Such personnel shall be excluded from the determinations and reports required by section 607 of the Federal Employees Pay Act of 1945, as amended (5 U. S. C. 947), with respect to personnel ceilings. Personnel necessary for the transaction of the business of the Service at canteens, warehouses, and storage depots shall be appointed, compensated from funds of the Service, and removed by the Administrator without regard to civil-service laws and the Classification Act of 1923, as amended: *Provided*, That such employees shall be subject to the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, the Civil Service Retirement Acts, and laws administered by the Bureau of Employees Compensation applicable to civilian employees of the United States."

Personnel.

59 Stat. 304.
5 U. S. C., Supp. II, § 947 note.

42 Stat. 1488.
5 U. S. C. §§ 661–674; Supp. II, § 662 *et seq.*
Post, p. 972.
58 Stat. 387.
5 U. S. C. §§ 851–869; Supp. II, § 851 *et seq.*

SEC. 2. Section 2 of the Act of August 7, 1946 (60 Stat. 888, 38 U. S. C. 13a), is amended by adding a new subsection (k) at the end thereof as follows:

"(k) To authorize the use of funds of the Service when available, subject to such regulations as he may deem appropriate, and without regard to the provisions of sections 3639 and 3651, Revised Statutes

Use of funds for cashing checks, etc.

of the United States, as amended (31 U. S. C. 521, 543), for the purpose of cashing checks, money orders, and similar instruments in nominal amounts for the payment of money presented by veterans hospitalized or domiciled at hospitals and homes of the Veterans' Administration, and by other persons authorized by section 3 of this Act to make purchases at canteens. Such checks, money orders, and other similar instruments may be cashed outright or may be accepted, subject to strict administrative controls, in payment for merchandise or services, and the difference between the amount of the purchase and the amount of the tendered instrument refunded in cash."

38 U. S. C., Supp. II, § 13c note. Appropriations authorized.

SEC. 3. Section 4 of the Act of August 7, 1946 (60 Stat. 889, 38 U. S. C. 13c), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. To finance the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the Service there is hereby authorized to be appropriated from time to time such amounts as are necessary to provide for (a) the acquisition of necessary furniture, furnishings, fixtures, and equipment for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of canteens, warehouses, and storage depots; (b) stocks of merchandise and supplies for canteens and reserve stocks of same in warehouses and storage depots; (c) salaries, wages, and expenses of all employees; (d) administrative and operation expenses and premiums on fidelity bonds of employees; and (e) adequate working capital for each canteen and for the Service as a whole. Amounts heretofore or hereafter appropriated under the authority contained in this Act, as amended, and all income from canteen operations become and will be administered as a revolving fund to effectuate the provisions of this Act, as amended."

Effective date.

SEC. 4. The provisions of this Act shall take effect on the 1st day of July 1949.

Approved May 21, 1949.

[CHAPTER 134]

AN ACT

May 23, 1949
[S. 460]
[Public Law 68]

To authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to reconvey to the Helena Chamber of Commerce certain described parcels of land situated in the city of Helena, Montana.

Chamber of Commerce, Helena, Mont. Reconveyance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to reconvey by quitclaim deed to the Helena Chamber of Commerce, a corporation, two parcels of land in Helena, Montana, commonly designated as lot numbered 10 and the south 55 feet of lot numbered 9 of the Henry Thompson placer mining claim in Lewis and Clark County, Montana, which parcels were conveyed to the United States of America by the Helena Chamber of Commerce by deed dated February 7, 1947, and recorded among the land records of said county, in Book 140 of Deeds at page 63.

Approved May 23, 1949.

[CHAPTER 135]

AN ACT

May 23, 1949
[S. 461]
[Public Law 69]

To clarify the provisions of section 602 (u) of the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, as amended.

National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, amendment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 602 (u) of the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, as amended, as