

[CHAPTER 777]

AN ACT

October 28, 1949
[S. 2382]
[Public Law 424]

To authorize the construction of a research laboratory for the Quartermaster Corps, United States Army, at a location to be selected by the Secretary of Defense.

Army Quarter-
master Corps.
Research labor-
atory.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated not to exceed \$11,000,000 for the acquisition of land and for the construction thereon of a research laboratory for the Quartermaster Corps, United States Army, at a location to be selected by the Secretary of Defense, and for such utilities and appurtenances thereto as, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Army, may be necessary in connection therewith. The site shall be chosen on the basis of recommendations of an impartial ad hoc committee of experts to be appointed by the Research and Development Board.

Approved October 28, 1949.

[CHAPTER 778]

AN ACT

October 28, 1949
[H. R. 3826]
[Public Law 425]

To amend the Act of January 16, 1883, an Act to regulate and improve the civil service of the United States.

Civil Service Act,
amendment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the third paragraph of the second clause of section 2 of the Act of January 16, 1883, an Act to regulate and improve the civil service of the United States (22 Stat. 403; 5 U. S. C. 633), is hereby amended to read as follows:

Apportionment of
appointments.

“Third, appointments to the public service aforesaid in the departments at Washington shall be apportioned among the several States and Territories and the District of Columbia upon the basis of population as ascertained at the last preceding census. Hereafter every application for examination before the Civil Service Commission for appointment in the departmental service in the District of Columbia shall be accompanied by a certificate of an officer, with his official seal attached, of the county and State of which the applicant claims to be a citizen, that such applicant was, at the time of making such application, a legal or voting resident of said State, and had been such resident for a period of not less than one year next preceding, or a statement under oath setting forth his or her legal voting residence for one year next preceding the time of making such application, and such statement shall be accompanied by letters from three reputable citizens of the State in which residence is claimed, corroborating such statement, but this provision shall not apply to persons who may be in the service with civil-service status and seek promotion or appointment in other branches of the Government.

Application for ex-
amination.

Repeal.

SEC. 2. The proviso of the second paragraph under the caption “Civil Service Commission” in the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, and for other purposes”, approved July 11, 1890 (26 Stat. 235), and the Act of May 15, 1937 (50 Stat. 168), are hereby repealed.

5 U. S. C. § 643.

Approved October 28, 1949.

[CHAPTER 779]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend the Act of June 30, 1949, which increased the compensation of certain employees of the District of Columbia, so as to clarify the provisions relating to retired policemen and firemen.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first sentence of section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to increase the compensation of certain employees of the municipal government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes", approved June 30, 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows: "No additional compensation shall be payable by reason of the enactment of this Act for any period prior to June 30, 1949, in the case of any person who was not an employee in or under the municipal government of the District of Columbia on June 30, 1949, except that (1) such additional compensation shall be paid to a retired employee for services rendered between the first day of the first pay period which began after June 30, 1948, and the date of his retirement, and (2) a retired officer or member of the Metropolitan Police, the United States Park Police, the White House Police, or the Fire Department of the District of Columbia who is entitled to retirement compensation from the policemen and firemen's relief fund shall be entitled, without application therefor, as of July 1, 1948, or the day on which he became entitled to such compensation, whichever is later, to the pension benefit resulting from the increase in pay made by the first section."

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[H. J. Res. 302]
[Public Law 426]

D. C. policemen and
firemen.

Ante, p. 377.

Restriction.

Ante, p. 376.

[CHAPTER 780]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to the sale of certain shipyard facilities at Orange, Texas.

Whereas the General Services Administration now holds for disposition certain shipyard facilities at Orange, Texas, declared surplus by the Navy Department; which facilities were constructed during the war on land belonging to the Consolidated Steel Corporation at a total cost of \$8,235,000; which facilities were operated during the war by Consolidated Steel Corporation in the construction of naval vessels; which facilities were closed down at the end of the war and have since remained idle; and

Whereas Consolidated Western Steel Corporation, successor to the Consolidated Steel Corporation, is now the owner of the lands upon which said facilities are located and has the right, under the contract with the Government under which said facilities were constructed, to require their removal upon sixty days' notice; and

Whereas it is vital to the national defense that the facilities be maintained and to the extent practicable operated and kept in good condition; and

Whereas Consolidated Western Steel Corporation in a written offer dated May 18, 1949, submitted to War Assets Administration its offer to purchase the Government-owned facilities for a cash price of \$1,001,000; and

Whereas the Munitions Board in connection with said proposed sale has imposed a "national security clause" on the facility, under the terms of which the facility will be maintained for the purposes of national defense by the proposed purchaser for a period of five years without cost to the Government; and

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[H. J. Res. 373]
[Public Law 427]

Whereas if the proposed sale is not consummated the facility will have to be scrapped at a possible loss to the Government in excess of \$500,000 and in addition will destroy the facility so vitally needed for national defense; and

Whereas the proposed sale will result in the employment in excess of one thousand workers in the operation thereof by the proposed purchaser; and

Whereas the War Assets Administration has strongly recommended a consummation of such sale to the Consolidated Western Steel Corporation; and

Ante, p. 391.

Whereas under the provision of section 207 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, the Attorney General is required to give an opinion as to whether or not, so far as he can determine, the disposition of property would tend to create a situation in violation of the antitrust laws; and

Whereas said provision may have the effect of preventing the consummation of said proposed sale; and

Whereas it is in the public interest and in the interest of the national security and the national economy that said sale be consummated; and

Whereas every effort has already been made to dispose of the facilities in place without success, and it will therefore be necessary to certify such facilities as undisposible in place pursuant to Public Law Numbered 883, Eightieth Congress, unless the proposed sale is consummated: Now, therefore, be it

62 Stat. 1225.
50 U. S. C., Supp.
II, §§ 451-462.

Orange, Tex.
Sale of shipyard
facilities.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator of General Services is hereby authorized and directed to consummate, on behalf of the United States, the sale of said facilities to the Consolidated Western Steel Corporation in accordance with its offer of May 18, 1949, and in accordance with the national security clause imposed with respect to said facilities by the Munitions Board.

Approved October 28, 1949.

[CHAPTER 781]

AN ACT

October 28, 1949
[H. R. 4495]
[Public Law 428]

To provide additional compensation and other benefits for postmasters, officers, and employees in the postal field service.

Postal officers and
employees.
Additional grades
and compensation.

59 Stat. 435.
39 U. S. C. §§ 56,
851-876; Supp. II,
§ 853 *et seq.*
Ante, pp. 622, 690,
902; *post*, p. 984.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) in the case of employees (except employees paid on an hourly basis) for whom additional grades for faithful and meritorious service are not provided in the Act of July 6, 1945, as amended (Public Law 134, Seventy-ninth Congress), there are hereby established three additional grades. Each such employee promoted to each such additional grade shall receive an increase in compensation of \$100 per annum. Each such employee shall be promoted (1) to the first such additional grade after three years of faithful and meritorious service in the highest automatic grade, (2) to the second such additional grade after five years of such service in the first additional grade, and (3) to the third such additional grade after seven years of such service in the second additional grade. No such employee shall be promoted to the first such additional grade unless he has rendered not less than thirteen years of service in the postal field service.

(b) In the case of employees for whom only two additional grades for faithful and meritorious service are provided in such Act of July 6,