

March 10, 1902.

[Public, No. 35.]

CHAP. 147.—An Act Making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and three, and for other purposes.

Pensions appropriations.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and three, and for other purposes, namely:

Invalid, etc., pensions.

For army and navy pensions, as follows: For invalids, widows, minor children, and dependent relatives, army nurses, and all other pensioners who are now borne on the rolls, or who may hereafter be placed thereon, under the provisions of any and all Acts of Congress, one hundred and thirty-eight million five hundred thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the appropriation aforesaid for navy pensions shall be paid from the income of the navy pension fund, so far as the same shall be sufficient for that purpose: *Provided further*, That the amount expended under each of the above items shall be accounted for separately.

Provisos.

Navy pensions.

Accounts.

Examining surgeons.

For fees and expenses of examining surgeons, for services rendered within the fiscal year nineteen hundred and three, eight hundred thousand dollars. And each member of each examining board shall, as now authorized by law, receive the sum of two dollars for the examination of each applicant whenever five or a less number shall be examined on any one day, and one dollar for the examination of each additional applicant on such day: *Provided*, That if twenty or more applicants appear on one day, no fewer than twenty shall, if practicable, be examined on said day, and that if fewer examinations be then made, twenty or more having appeared, then there shall be paid for the first examinations made on the next examination day the fee of one dollar only until twenty examinations shall have been made: *Provided further*, That no fee shall be paid to any member of an examining board unless personally present and assisting in the examination of applicant: *And provided further*, That the report of such examining surgeons shall specifically state the rating which in their judgment the applicant is entitled to, and the report of such examining surgeons shall specifically and accurately set forth the physical condition of the applicant, each and every existing disability being fully and carefully described. The reports of the special examiners of the Bureau of Pensions shall be open to inspection and copy by the applicant or his attorney, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe: *And provided further*, That hereafter no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services rendered in securing the introduction of a bill or the passage thereof through Congress granting pension or increase of pension; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain any compensation for such services shall be deemed guilty of an offense, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding two years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Fees.

Provisos.

Examinations.

No fee unless service rendered.

Rating.

Disabilities must be fully described. Inspection of reports.

Pension attorneys, etc.

Pay for securing special legislation an offense.

Punishment.

Agents' salaries.

Clerk hire.

Proviso.

Apportionment.

Rent.

Stationery, lights, etc.

For salaries of eighteen agents for the payment of pensions, at four thousand dollars each, seventy-two thousand dollars.

For clerk hire, four hundred and thirty thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the amount of clerk hire for each agency shall be apportioned as nearly as practicable in proportion to the number of pensioners paid at each agency, and the salaries paid shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

For rents, nine thousand four hundred and eighty dollars.

For stationery and other necessary expenses, including fuel and lights, thirty thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Approved, March 10, 1902.