

grade to which he would have progressed had his original appointment been made to a regular position of grade 1, plus four grades, and the progression shall be computed on the basis of years of substitute service as herein provided. Any fractional part of a year's substitute service performed prior to July 1, 1945, and on and after that date, shall be included with regular service in determining eligibility for promotion to a higher grade following appointment to a regular position: *Provided*, That no substitute shall be appointed to a higher grade of a regular position than the highest grade to which employees may progress through annual promotions: *Provided further*, That upon appointment of a substitute employee to a regular position he shall not be placed in or promoted to a grade higher than the grade to which he would have progressed, including benefits authorized by section 23 of Public Law 134, approved July 6, 1945, had his original appointment been to a regular position of grade 1: *And provided further*, That employees shall not be allowed credit for service performed under temporary or war-service appointments except when such service is continuous to the date of appointment as a classified substitute or regular employee.

Fractional part of year.

Limitation.

59 Stat. 460.
39 U. S. C., Supp.
V, § 873.

Temporary appointments, etc., restriction.

Separation from field service for military duty.

Reinstatements.

Annual and sick leave.

Rural routes, temporary service.

Retroaction.

SEC. 2. Employees who have been separated or shall hereafter be separated from the field service of the Post Office Department for military duty shall be given credit under the provisions of section 1 of this Act for the periods or terms of substitute service immediately preceding their entry into military service and pro rata credit shall be given for the time engaged in military service. Employees who are reinstated to positions in the field service of the Post Office Department may be given credit for the periods or terms of continuous substitute and regular service immediately preceding their separation, but they shall not be placed in a grade higher than the grade to which they would have progressed in continuous service.

SEC. 3. War service indefinite substitute employees in the postal service, under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe, shall be entitled to the same rights and benefits with respect to annual and sick leave that accrue to classified substitute employees in proportion to the time employed in a pay status.

SEC. 4. A temporary rural carrier serving a rural route during the vacancy created by the induction of the regular carrier into the armed forces of the United States shall be paid for such service at the same rates per mile per annum and the same rate of fixed compensation that would have been paid to the regular carrier, Sundays and holidays included except at the beginning or end of the period of employment.

SEC. 5. The provisions of this Act shall be retroactive to July 1, 1945.

Approved March 6, 1946.

[CHAPTER 58]

AN ACT

To amend section 9 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, approved December 21, 1928.

March 6, 1946

[H. R. 4932]

[Public Law 318]

Boulder Canyon Project Act, amendment.

Irrigable lands withdrawn from public entry.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 9 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act (45 Stat. 1057, 1063; 43 U. S. C., sec. 617h) is amended to read as follows:

"All lands of the United States found by the Secretary of the Interior to be practicable of irrigation and reclamation by the irrigation works authorized herein shall be withdrawn from public entry. Thereafter, at the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, such

lands shall be opened for entry, in tracts varying in size but not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, as may be determined by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with the provisions of the reclamation law, and any such entryman shall pay an equitable share in accordance with the benefits received, as determined by the said Secretary, of the construction cost of said canal and appurtenant structures; said payments to be made in such installments and at such times as may be specified by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with the provisions of the said reclamation law, and shall constitute revenue from said project and be covered into the fund herein provided for: *Provided*, That all persons who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard during World War II, the War with Germany, the War with Spain, or in the suppression of the insurrection in the Philippines, and who have been honorably separated or discharged therefrom or placed in the Regular Army or Naval Reserve, shall have the exclusive preference right for a period of three months to enter said lands, subject, however, to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4 of the Act of December 5, 1924 (43 Stat. 672, 702; 43 U. S. C., sec. 433); and also, so far as practicable, preference shall be given to said persons in all construction work authorized by this chapter: *Provided further*, That the above exclusive preference rights shall apply to veteran settlers on lands watered from the Gila canal in Arizona the same as to veteran settlers on lands watered from the All-American canal in California: *Provided further*, That in the event such an entry shall be relinquished at any time prior to actual residence upon the land by the entryman for not less than one year, lands so relinquished shall not be subject to entry for a period of sixty days after the filing and notation of the relinquishment in the local land office, and after the expiration of said sixty-day period such lands shall be open to entry, subject to the preference in this section provided."

Approved March 6, 1946.

[CHAPTER 80]

AN ACT

To eliminate the practice by subcontractors, under cost-plus-a-fixed-fee or cost reimbursable contracts of the United States, of paying fees or kick-backs, or of granting gifts or gratuities to employees of a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee or cost reimbursable prime contractors or of higher tier subcontractors for the purpose of securing the award of subcontracts or orders.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the payment of any fee, commission, or compensation of any kind or the granting of any gift or gratuity of any kind, either directly or indirectly, by or on behalf of a subcontractor, as hereinafter defined, (1) to any officer, partner, employee, or agent of a prime contractor holding a contract entered into by any department, agency, or establishment of the United States for the furnishing of supplies, materials, equipment or services of any kind whatsoever, on a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee or other cost reimbursable basis; or to any such prime contractor or (2) to any officer, partner, employee, or agent of a higher tier subcontractor holding a subcontract under the prime contract, or to any such subcontractor either as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order from the prime contractor or any subcontractor, or as an acknowledgment of a subcontract or order previously awarded, is hereby prohibited. The amount of any such fee, commission, or compensation or the cost or expense of any such gratuity or gift, whether heretofore or hereafter paid or incurred by the subcontractor, shall not be charged, either directly or indirectly, as a part of the contract price charged by the

To be opened under reclamation law.

43 Stat. 701.
43 U. S. C. §§ 371-611; Supp. V, § 373 et seq.
Post, p. 867.
Payments.

Veterans' preference.

Qualifications.

43 U. S. C., Supp. V, § 433 note.

Applicability of rights.

Relinquishment.

March 8, 1946
[H. R. 2284]

[Public Law 319]

Granting of gifts, etc., by subcontractors.