

of the period during which any conditions of the sale of said lands may be complied with for an additional period equal to the period of the use of said lands by the United States of America, including any department or agency thereof".

Approved August 7, 1946.

[CHAPTER 772]

AN ACT

Relating to the disposition of public lands of the United States situated in the State of Oklahoma between the Cimarron base line and the north boundary of the State of Texas.

August 7, 1946
[H. R. 3593]
[Public Law 617]

Oklahoma.
Patents for certain
public lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever it shall be shown, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, that public land situated south of the Cimarron base line in Oklahoma and north of the north line of Texas has been used, improved, or cultivated in connection with abutting land, and has been held in good faith, in peaceful, open, adverse possession by a citizen or citizens of the United States, his or their ancestors, or grantors, for a period not less than twenty years prior to the passage of this Act, such citizen or citizens shall be entitled to receive a patent therefor upon payment of \$1.25 per acre: *Provided*, That oil, gas, or other mineral deposits contained therein are hereby reserved to the United States; that said minerals shall be and remain subject to sale or disposal by the United States under applicable laws; and that permittees, lessees, grantees, or agents of the United States shall have a right to enter upon said lands for the purpose of prospecting for and mining said minerals: *And provided further*, That any person entitled to patent under this Act shall present his application within one year from the official filing of the township plat.

Mineral deposits.

Application.

Title of U. S. to
town lots, relinquish-
ment.

SEC. 2. That where any land included within said area has been included in townsite plats recorded on the county records in Texas or Oklahoma, and the lots, blocks, streets, alleys, and highways, have been shown on the official United States township plats, according to such townsite plats, the title of the United States to town lots shown on such plats is hereby relinquished to and confirmed in those persons, their heirs, assigns, or successors, who would be the true and lawful owners if the lands had been owned in fee simple at the time of the recordation of such townsite plats. The township plats representing streets and alleys of any townsite shall be considered as executed under the townsite laws, and shall constitute a dedication of the streets, alleys, and public highways shown thereon: *Provided*, That the oil, gas, or other mineral deposits in the land relinquished, confirmed, or dedicated by this section, are hereby reserved to the United States for disposal as provided in section 1 hereof.

Mineral deposits.

Approved August 7, 1946.

[CHAPTER 773]

AN ACT

For the relief of the city and county of San Francisco.

August 7, 1946
[H. R. 3703]
[Public Law 618]

San Francisco, Calif.
Settlement of claims.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the city and county of San Francisco, a municipal corporation, of San Francisco, California, the sum of \$422.64, in full settlement of all claims against the United States for reimbursement of expenses incurred in rebuilding and

restoring a power transmission line and loss of power revenue in Calaveras County, California, near Sunol, which transmission line was damaged by the crashing of a United States Army plane, on February 26, 1941, while the said plane was engaged in making a flight over the area indicated: *Provided*, That no part of the amount appropriated in this Act in excess of 10 per centum thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or agents, attorney or attorneys, on account of services rendered in connection with such claim. It shall be unlawful for any agent or agents, attorney or attorneys, to exact, collect, withhold, or receive any sum of the amount appropriated in this Act in excess of 10 per centum thereof on account of services rendered in connection with such claim, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding \$1,000.

Approved August 7, 1946.

[CHAPTER 774]

AN ACT

To amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide for the recognition of the services of the civilian officials and employees, citizens of the United States, engaged in and about the construction of the Panama Canal", approved May 29, 1944.

August 7, 1946
[H. R. 3748]
[Public Law 619]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 2 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the recognition of the services of the civilian officials and employees, citizens of the United States, engaged in and about the construction of the Panama Canal", approved May 29, 1944, be, and the same is, hereby amended, effective May 29, 1944, by adding to the last paragraph of said section 2 the following sentence: "The terms 'citizens of the United States' and 'a citizen of the United States', as used in this Act, shall be so construed as to include those who, through naturalization, became citizens of the United States on or before December 7, 1941."

Panama Canal.
Recognition of civilian services.

58 Stat. 258.
48 U. S. C., Supp.
V, § 1373a.

Approved August 7, 1946.

[CHAPTER 775]

AN ACT

To authorize the Commissioner of Patents to designate examiners to serve temporarily as examiners in chief.

August 7, 1946
[H. R. 4080]
[Public Law 620]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding the provisions of section 476 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., title 35, sec. 2), the Commissioner of Patents is authorized to designate examiners of the principal examiner grade or higher, having the requisite ability, to serve as examiners in chief and such examiners so designated shall be fully qualified to act as members of the board of appeals constituted by section 482 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., title 35, sec. 7): *Provided*, That no such examiner shall so serve for more than ninety days in any calendar year but thereafter they shall have authority to act and sign decisions and papers necessary to complete action on cases heard during such ninety days: *And provided further*, That not more than one such examiner shall be among the members of the board of appeals hearing an appeal.

Commissioner of Patents.
Authority to designate examiners.
Ante, p. 445.

Service on board of appeals.

Ante, p. 445.

Effective term.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect on the date of approval and shall expire three years after such date.

Approved August 7, 1946.