

States, any claim upon or against the Government of the United States, or any department or officer thereof, knowing such claim to be false, fictitious, or fraudulent, or who, for the purpose of obtaining or aiding to obtain the payment or approval of such claim, makes, uses, or causes to be made or used, any false bill, receipt, voucher, roll, account, claim, certificate, affidavit, or deposition, knowing the same to contain any fraudulent or fictitious statement or entry, or who enters into any agreement, combination, or conspiracy to defraud the Government of the United States, or any department or officer thereof, by obtaining or aiding to obtain the payment or allowance of any false or fraudulent claim, or who, having charge, possession, custody, or control of any money or other public property used or to be used in the military or naval service, who with intent to defraud the United States or willfully to conceal such money or other property, delivers or causes to be delivered, to any person having authority to receive the same, any amount of such money or other property less than that for which he received a certificate or took a receipt, and every person authorized to make or deliver any certificate, voucher, receipt, or other paper certifying the receipt of arms, ammunition, provisions, clothing, or other property so used or to be used, who makes or delivers the same to any other person without a full knowledge of the truth of the facts stated therein, and with intent to defraud the United States, shall be imprisoned at hard labor for not more than five years, or fined not more than five thousand dollars; and every person who knowingly purchases or receives in pledge for any obligation or indebtedness from any soldier, officer, sailor, or other person called into or employed in the military or naval service any arms, equipments, ammunition, clothes, military stores, or other public property, whether furnished to the soldier under a clothing allowance or otherwise, such soldier, sailor, officer, or other person not having the lawful right to pledge or sell the same, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than two years and by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars."

Approved, May 30, 1908.

Military and naval property. Custodians, etc., who deliver, etc., with fraudulent intent.

Penalty. Persons who purchase, etc., public property with fraudulent intent.

Penalty.

May 30, 1908. [H. R. 21844.]

[Public, No. 176.]

CHAP. 236.—An Act Granting to certain employees of the United States the right to receive from it compensation for injuries sustained in the course of their employment.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That when, on or after August first, nineteen hundred and eight, any person employed by the United States as an artisan or laborer in any of its manufacturing establishments, arsenals, or navy-yards, or in the construction of river and harbor or fortification work or in hazardous employment on construction work in the reclamation of arid lands or the management and control of the same, or in hazardous employment under the Isthmian Canal Commission, is injured in the course of such employment, such employee shall be entitled to receive for one year thereafter, unless such employee, in the opinion of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, be sooner able to resume work, the same pay as if he continued to be employed, such payment to be made under such regulations as the Secretary of Commerce and Labor may prescribe: *Provided,* That no compensation shall be paid under this Act where the injury is due to the negligence or misconduct of the employee injured, nor unless said injury shall continue for more than fifteen days. All questions of negligence or misconduct shall be determined by the Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Government employees. Compensation to certain, for injuries sustained during employment. Character of work specified.

Time limit.

Proviso. Restriction.

Compensation to widow, etc.

SEC. 2. That if any artisan or laborer so employed shall die during the said year by reason of such injury received in the course of such employ-

ment, leaving a widow, or a child or children under sixteen years of age, or a dependent parent, such widow and child or children and dependent parent shall be entitled to receive, in such portions and under such regulations as the Secretary of Commerce and Labor may prescribe, the same amount, for the remainder of the said year, that said artisan or laborer would be entitled to receive as pay if such employee were alive and continued to be employed: *Provided*, That if the widow shall die at any time during the said year her portion of said amount shall be added to the amount to be paid to the remaining beneficiaries under the provisions of this section, if there be any.

SEC. 3. That whenever an accident occurs to any employee embraced within the terms of the first section of this Act, and which results in death or a probable incapacity for work, it shall be the duty of the official superior of such employee to at once report such accident and the injury resulting therefrom to the head of his Bureau or independent office, and his report shall be immediately communicated through regular official channels to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor. Such report shall state, first, the time, cause, and nature of the accident and injury and the probable duration of the injury resulting therefrom; second, whether the accident arose out of or in the course of the injured person's employment; third, whether the accident was due to negligence or misconduct on the part of the employee injured; fourth, any other matters required by such rules and regulations as the Secretary of Commerce and Labor may prescribe. The head of each Department or independent office shall have power, however, to charge a special official with the duty of making such reports.

SEC. 4. That in the case of any accident which shall result in death, the persons entitled to compensation under this Act or their legal representatives shall, within ninety days after such death, file with the Secretary of Commerce and Labor an affidavit setting forth their relationship to the deceased and the ground of their claim for compensation under the provisions of this Act. This shall be accompanied by the certificate of the attending physician setting forth the fact and cause of death, or the nonproduction of the certificate shall be satisfactorily accounted for. In the case of incapacity for work lasting more than fifteen days, the injured party desiring to take the benefit of this Act shall, within a reasonable period after the expiration of such time, file with his official superior, to be forwarded through regular official channels to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, an affidavit setting forth the grounds of his claim for compensation, to be accompanied by a certificate of the attending physician as to the cause and nature of the injury and probable duration of the incapacity, or the nonproduction of the certificate shall be satisfactorily accounted for. If the Secretary of Commerce and Labor shall find from the report and affidavit or other evidence produced by the claimant or his or her legal representatives, or from such additional investigation as the Secretary of Commerce and Labor may direct, that a claim for compensation is established under this Act, the compensation to be paid shall be determined as provided under this Act and approved for payment by the Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

SEC. 5. That the employee shall, whenever and as often as required by the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, at least once in six months, submit to medical examination, to be provided and paid for under the direction of the Secretary, and if such employee refuses to submit to or obstructs such examination his or her right to compensation shall be lost for the period covered by the continuance of such refusal or obstruction.

SEC. 6. That payments under this Act are only to be made to the beneficiaries or their legal representatives other than assignees, and shall not be subject to the claims of creditors.

Regulations.

*Proviso.*  
Remaining beneficiaries to receive deceased widow's portion.

Reports of injuries.

Character of reports.

Affidavit filed in case of death.

Time limit.

Physician's certificate.  
Affidavit in case of injury.

Contents of affidavit, etc.

Determining compensation.

Medical examination.

Refusal to be examined.

Payments to beneficiaries, etc.

Contracts exempt-  
ing from liability  
void.

SEC. 7. That the United States shall not exempt itself from liability under this Act by any contract, agreement, rule, or regulation, and any such contract, agreement, rule, or regulation shall be pro tanto void.

Repeal.

SEC. 8. That all Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith or providing a different scale of compensation or otherwise regulating its payment are hereby repealed.

Approved, May 30, 1908.

May 30, 1908.  
[S. 206.]

CHAP. 237.—An Act For the survey and allotment of lands now embraced within the limits of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and the sale and disposal of all the surplus lands after allotment.

[Public, No. 177.]

Fort Peck Indian  
Reservation, Mont.  
Survey of all lands  
in.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to cause to be surveyed all the lands embraced within the limits of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and to cause an examination of the lands within such reservation to be made by the Reclamation Service and by experts of the Geological Survey, and if there be found any lands which it may be deemed practicable to bring under an irrigation project, or any lands bearing lignite coal, the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to construct such irrigation projects and reserve such lands as may be irrigable therefrom, or necessary for irrigation works, and also coal lands as may be necessary to the construction and maintenance of any such projects.

Examination by ex-  
perts for irrigable and  
coal lands.

Reservation.

Allotments to In-  
dians.

SEC. 2. That as soon as all the lands embraced within the said Fort Peck Indian Reservation shall have been surveyed the Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall cause allotments of the same to be made under the provisions of the allotment laws of the United States to all Indians belonging and having tribal rights on said reservation; and there shall be allotted to each such Indian three hundred and twenty acres of grazing land, and there shall also be made an additional allotment of not less than two and one-half acres nor more than twenty acres of timber land to heads of families and single adult members of the tribe over eighteen years of age: *Provided,* That should it be determined as feasible, after examination, to irrigate any of said lands, the irrigable land shall be allotted in equal proportions to such only of the members of said tribe as shall be living at the day of the beginning of the work of allotment on said reservation by the special allotting agent, and such allotment of irrigable land shall be in addition to the allotments of grazing and timber lands aforesaid, but no member shall receive more than forty acres of such irrigable land; and to pay the costs of examination provided for herein and for the construction of irrigation systems to irrigate lands which may be found susceptible of irrigation, there is hereby appropriated two hundred thousand dollars, to be immediately available, the said sum and any and all additional sums hereafter appropriated to pay the cost of such examination and irrigation systems to be reimbursed from proceeds of sales of lands within the said reservation: *Provided, however,* That any land irrigable by any system constructed under the provisions of this Act may be disposed of subject to the following conditions: The entryman or owner shall, in addition to the payments required by section eight of this Act, be required to pay for a water right the proportionate cost of the construction of said system in not more than fifteen annual installments, as fixed by the Secretary of the Interior, with a view to the return of all moneys expended thereon, the same to be paid at the local land office, and the register and receiver shall be allowed the usual commissions on all moneys paid.

Area of allotments.

Allotments of tim-  
ber lands.

Proviso.  
Irrigable lands to be  
allotted.

Limit.

Appropriation to  
pay cost.

Reimbursement.  
Payment for water  
right.