

Option to citizens who have occupied property for more than 15 years under lease from War Department, to buy at appraised value.

Secretary of War may, in his discretion, extend to citizens of the United States who have themselves or whose predecessors in interest have occupied and improved portions of such reservations under leases from or with the consent of the War Department for more than fifteen years prior to the approval of this Act, an option to buy the portions of such reservations so occupied and improved at the appraised value of the land exclusive of improvements placed thereon; and the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to convey title to such persons by quitclaim deed upon payment of the appraised value of any such portions: *Provided further*, That in carrying out the provisions of this section the Secretary of War shall not incur any expense other than that incident and necessary to giving the notices required and surveying and platting such of the property as may be claimed by a citizen of the United States."

Expenses limited.

Approved, May 26, 1928.

May 26, 1928.

[H. R. 12624.]

[Public, No. 551.]

CHAP. 787.—An Act To amend section 17 of the Act of June 10, 1922, entitled "An Act to readjust the pay and allowances of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service," as amended.

Pay readjustment, Army, etc.
Vol. 42, p. 632, amended.

Retired pay.
Active duty since retirement included in longevity pay, etc.

Pay, etc., while on leave or sick, as officers on active duty.
Benefits to dependents, if dying on leave or sick.
Vol. 41, pp. 367, 785.

Proviso.
No back pay, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 17 of the Act approved June 10, 1922, entitled "An Act to readjust the pay and allowances of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service," as amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after the words "provided in this Act," and before the next proviso, line 3 of said section, the following: "which pay shall include increases for all active duty performed since retirement in the computation of their longevity pay and pay periods."

And after the phrase, "receive full pay and allowances," at the end of the last line of said section, by changing the period to a comma and inserting thereafter the following: "and when on active-duty status, shall have the same pay and allowance rights while on leave of absence or sick as officers on the active list, and if death occurs when on active-duty status, while on leave of absence or sick, their dependents shall not thereby be deprived of the benefits provided in Act approved December 17, 1919, as amended, and in the Act of June 4, 1920: *Provided*, That no back pay or allowances shall accrue by reason of the passage of this Act."

Approved, May 26, 1928.

May 28, 1928.

[S. 3593.]

[Public, No. 552.]

CHAP. 811.—An Act To authorize the leasing or sale of lands reserved for agency, schools, and other purposes on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana.

Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Mont.
Sale or lease of reserved agency, etc., lands with consent of the Indians.
Vol. 44, p. 1402.

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 is hereby authorized to lease or sell any of the tribal lands on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana, the lands that were reserved and title thereto reinvested in the Indians by the Act of March 3, 1927 (Forty-fourth Statutes at Large, page 1402), and now reserved for agency, schools, and other purposes, upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe with the consent and approval of the Indians through the general council of the Fort Peck Indians in the State of Montana at general council meeting when duly called and assembled: *Provided*, That no part

Provisos.

of said tribal lands shall be sold until the Secretary of the Interior shall determine that said lands are no longer required for such purposes with the consent and approval of the said general council, and in case of the sale of said tribal lands the mineral rights, including oil, gas, and other minerals, shall be reserved to the Fort Peck Indians: *Provided further*, That the proceeds derived from the sale or lease of said tribal lands shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Fort Peck Indians under the title of "Fort Peck 4 per cent fund," and shall be subject to disposition under the Act of May 30, 1908 (Thirty-fifth Statutes at Large, page 558).

Approved, May 28, 1928.

Subject to determination of Secretary of the Interior.

Mineral rights reserved.

Proceeds to credit of "Fort Peck 4 per cent fund."

Disposition. Vol. 35, p. 563.

CHAP. 812.—An Act Granting to the State of New Mexico certain lands for reimbursement of the counties of Grant, Luna, Hidalgo, and Santa Fe for interest paid on railroad-aid bonds, and for the payment of the principal of railroad-aid bonds issued by the town of Silver City and to reimburse said town for interest paid on said bonds, and for other purposes.

May 28, 1928.
[S. 2535.]

[Public, No. 553.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby granted to the State of New Mexico two hundred and fifty thousand acres of the surveyed nonmineral unappropriated and unreserved public lands of the United States within said State, in trust, for the reimbursement of Grant, Luna, and Hidalgo Counties for interest paid by said counties on the bonds of Grant County, and for the reimbursement of Santa Fe County for interest paid by said county on the bonds of Santa Fe County, all of which said bonds were validated, approved, and confirmed by Act of Congress of January 16, 1897 (Twenty-ninth Statutes, page 487); and also for the payment of the principal of the bonds issued by the town of Silver City and likewise validated by said Act of January 16, 1897, and to reimburse said town of Silver City for interest paid by said town on said bonds: *Provided*, That if there shall remain any of the two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land so granted, or of the proceeds of the sale or lease thereof, or rents, issues, or profits therefrom, after the payment of said items and debt, such remainder of lands and the proceeds of sales thereof shall be added to and become a part of the permanent school fund of said State.

Public lands. New Mexico granted, in trust, for reimbursing designated counties for interest paid on bonds, etc.

Vol. 29, p. 487. Also for reimbursing Silver City.

Proviso. Remainder of land, etc., added to State school fund.

SEC. 2. That the said lands shall be selected in the same manner as provided for the selection of lands granted to the State of New Mexico by an Act of the Congress of the United States approved June 20, 1910, entitled "An Act to enable the people of New Mexico to form a constitution and State government and be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States; and to enable the people of Arizona to form a constitution and State government and be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," and such lands shall be leased and sold in such manner and under such limitations and restrictions as are provided in the said Act of June 20, 1910.

Selection and disposal of lands. Vol. 36, p. 561.

SEC. 3. Said State of New Mexico through its State board of finance shall determine the interest paid by said counties on said indebtedness, and the manner of liquidating the same, and likewise the amount of the principal due on the bonds issued by the town of Silver City, and the interest paid by said town and the manner of liquidating the same.

Determination of distribution.

Approved, May 28, 1928.