

have been made with an irrigation district or irrigation districts organized under State law providing for payment by the district or districts of the cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining the works during the time they are in control of the United States, such cost of constructing to be repaid within such terms of years as the Secretary may find to be necessary, in any event not more than forty years from the date of public notice hereinafter referred to, and the execution of said contract or contracts shall have been confirmed by a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction. Prior to or in connection with the settlement and development of each of these projects, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized in his discretion to enter into agreement with the proper authorities of the State or States wherein said projects or divisions are located whereby such State or States shall cooperate with the United States in promoting the settlement of the projects or divisions after completion and in the securing and selecting of settlers. Such contract or contracts with irrigation districts hereinbefore referred to shall further provide that all irrigable land held in private ownership by any one owner in excess of one hundred and sixty irrigable acres shall be appraised in a manner to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior and the sale prices thereof fixed by the Secretary on the basis of its actual bona fide value at the date of appraisal without reference to the proposed construction of the irrigation works; and that no such excess lands so held shall receive water from any project or division if the owners thereof shall refuse to execute valid recordable contracts for the sale of such lands under terms and conditions satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior and at prices not to exceed those fixed by the Secretary of the Interior; and that until one-half the construction charges against said lands shall have been fully paid no sale of any such lands shall carry the right to receive water unless and until the purchase price involved in such sale is approved by the Secretary of the Interior and that upon proof of fraudulent representation as to the true consideration involved in such sales the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to cancel the water right attaching to the land involved in such fraudulent sales: *Provided, however,* That if excess land is acquired by foreclosure or other process of law, by conveyance in satisfaction of mortgages, by inheritance, or by devise, water therefor may be furnished temporarily for a period not exceeding five years from the effective date of such acquisition, delivery of water thereafter ceasing until the transfer thereof to a landowner duly qualified to secure water therefor: *Provided further,* That the operation and maintenance charges on account of lands in said projects and divisions shall be paid annually in advance not later than March 1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to give public notice when water is actually available, and the operation and maintenance charges payable to the United States for the first year after such public notice shall be transferred to and paid as a part of the construction payment.

(May 25, 1926, ch. 383, §46, 44 Stat. 649; July 11, 1956, ch. 563, §1, 70 Stat. 524.)

AMENDMENTS

1956—Act July 11, 1956, authorized delivery of water for not more than five years to excess lands acquired by foreclosure or other process of law, by conveyance in satisfaction of mortgages, by inheritance, or by devise.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA;
NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL RECLAMATION LAWS

Pub. L. 96-570, §4, Dec. 22, 1980, 94 Stat. 3340, provided that: "The following provisions of the Federal reclamation laws shall not apply to lands within the Imperial Irrigation District of California after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 22, 1980]:

"(a) section 5 of the Act entitled 'An Act appropriating the receipts from the sale and disposal of public lands in certain States and Territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands', approved June 17, 1902 (43 U.S.C. 431);

"(b) section 46 of the Act entitled 'An Act to adjust water-right charges, to grant certain other relief on the Federal irrigation projects, and for other purposes', approved May 25, 1926 (42 U.S.C. 423e) [this section]; and

"(c) any other provision of law amendatory or supplementary to either of such sections."

AMENDMENT OF EXISTING CONTRACTS

Section 3 of act July 11, 1956, provided that: "The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, upon request of any holder of an existing contract under the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), to amend the contract to conform to the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of this Act [amending sections 423e and 544 of this title]."

§ 423f. Purpose of sections 423 to 423g and 610

The purpose of sections 423 to 423g and 610 of this title is the rehabilitation of the several reclamation projects and the insuring of their future success by placing them upon a sound operative and business basis, and the Secretary of the Interior is directed to administer said sections to those ends.

(May 25, 1926, ch. 383, §48, 44 Stat. 650.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 423 to 423g and 610 of this title, referred to in text, was in the original "this Act", meaning act of May 25, 1926, ch. 383, 44 Stat. 636, as amended, which enacted sections 423 to 423g and 610 of this title. Section 610 of this title has been omitted from the Code. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

§ 423g. Adjustment of water right charges as final adjudication on projects and divisions named

The adjustments under sections 1 to 40, inclusive, of the Act of Congress of May 25, 1926, 44 Statutes 636, are declared to be an incident of the operation of the "reclamation law," a final adjudication on the projects and divisions named in such sections under the authority contained in section 466 of this title, and shall not after May 25, 1926, be construed to be the basis of reimbursement to the "reclamation fund" from the general fund of the Treasury or by the diversion to the "reclamation fund" of revenue of the United States not on May 25, 1926, required by law to be credited to such "reclamation fund."

(May 25, 1926, ch. 383, §50, 44 Stat. 650.)