The words ''or from the existing circuit courts,'' which followed ''district courts'' in the proviso were superseded by the abolition of the circuit courts and the transfer of their jurisdiction to the district courts, by act Mar. 3, 1911.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

This section superseded act Aug. 11, 1888, ch. 860, §§ 9, 10, 25 Stat. 424, as amended by act Sept. 19, 1890, ch. 907, §§ 4, 5, 26 Stat. 453, which required the Secretary of War to provide against obstructions to navigation by bridges, and prescribed a punishment on the owner's default in making the required alterations.

The Secretary of War was authorized to make the required changes in bridges obstructing navigation on the owner's failure to do so, and the Attorney General was required to institute proceedings against the owner for the recovery of the cost of such changes, by act July 5, 1884, ch. 229, § 8, 23 Stat. 148.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 108–293 substituted ''$5,000 for a violation occurring in 2004; $10,000 for a violation occurring in 2005; $15,000 for a violation occurring in 2006; $20,000 for a violation occurring in 2007; and $25,000 for a violation occurring in 2008 and any year thereafter'' for ''$1,000''.

1982—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97–322 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), substituted ''Secretary of Transportation'' for ''Secretary of War'' wherever appearing, and struck out ''recommended by the Chief of Engineers'' after ''specify the charges''.

Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 97–322 added subsecs. (b) and (c).

1948—Act June 25, 1948, § 39, repealed proviso at end relating to appeals. See sections 1252 and 1253 of title 28.

CHANGE OF NAME

Act June 25, 1948, eff. Sept. 1, 1948, substituted ''United States attorney'' for ''district attorney of the United States''. See section 541 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, and Historical and Revision Notes thereunder.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1948 AMENDMENT

Amendment by act June 25, 1948 effective Sept. 1, 1948, see section 38 of act June 25, 1948, set out as an Effective Date note preceding section 1 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

LIMITATION ON APPLICATION

Section as not applicable to bridges constructed under sections 491 to 498 of this title, see section 494 of this title.

§ 503 to 507. Repealed. Pub. L. 100–17, title I, § 135(d), Apr. 2, 1987, 101 Stat. 174

Section 503, act Aug. 21, 1935, ch. 597, § 1, 49 Stat. 670, provided that, on and after Aug. 21, 1935, tolls over any bridge over any of the navigable waters of the United States, if such bridge is used for travel or transportation in interstate or foreign commerce, be just and reasonable and specified bridges to which sections 503 to 507 of this title not apply.

Section 504, acts Aug. 21, 1935, ch. 597, § 2, 49 Stat. 671; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, § 2(d)(1), 96 Stat. 2440, authorized Secretary of Transportation to determine reasonableness of any toll charged for passage or transit over any bridge to which sections 503 to 507 of this title applied and to prescribe an order establishing a reasonable toll, which order was to take effect thirty days after issuance.

Section 505, acts Aug. 21, 1935, ch. 597, § 3, 49 Stat. 671; June 25, 1948, ch. 646, § 32(a), 62 Stat. 991; May 24, 1949, ch. 139, § 127, 63 Stat. 107; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, § 2(d)(1), 96 Stat. 2440, provided for judicial review of orders of the Secretary of Transportation prescribing reasonable tolls.

Section 506, acts Aug. 21, 1935, ch. 597, § 4, 49 Stat. 671; Oct. 15, 1970, Pub. L. 91–452, title II, § 235, 84 Stat. 930; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, § 2(d)(1), 96 Stat. 2440, authorized Secretary of Transportation to hold hearings in determining reasonableness of tolls, to require attendance of witnesses, and to punish witnesses for failure to attend such hearings.

Section 507, act Aug. 21, 1935, ch. 597, § 5, 49 Stat. 672, related to punishment for failure to obey an order prescribing toll.

§ 508. Amount of tolls

Tolls for passage or transit over any bridge constructed under the authority of the Act of March 23, 1906 (34 Stat. 84; 33 U.S.C. 491–498), commonly known as the ''Bridge Act of 1906'', the General Bridge Act of 1946 [33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.], and the International Bridge Act of 1972 [33 U.S.C. 535 et seq.] shall be just and reasonable.

(Pub. L. 100–17, title I, § 135(i), Apr. 2, 1987, 101 Stat. 174.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of March 23, 1906 (34 Stat. 84; 33 U.S.C. 491–498), commonly known as the ''Bridge Act of 1906'', referred to in text, is act Mar. 23, 1906, ch. 1130, 34 Stat. 84, as amended, which enacted sections 491 to 498 of this title. For complete classification of this Act of the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 491 of this title and Tables.

The General Bridge Act of 1946, referred to in text, is title V of act Aug. 2, 1946, ch. 753, 60 Stat. 847, as amended, which is classified generally to subchapter III (§ 525 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 525 of this title and Tables.

The International Bridge Act of 1972, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 92–434, Sept. 26, 1972, 86 Stat. 731, as amended, which is classified principally to subchapter IV (§ 535 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 535 of this title and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER II—ALTERATION OF BRIDGES

§ 511. Definitions

When used in this subchapter, unless the context indicates otherwise—

The term ''alteration'' includes changes of any kind, reconstruction, or removal in whole or in part.

The term ''bridge'' means a lawful bridge over navigable waters of the United States, including approaches, fenders, and appurtenances thereto, which is used and operated for the purpose of carrying railroad traffic, or both railroad and highway traffic, or if a State, county, municipality, or other political subdivision is the owner or joint owner thereof, which is used and operated for the purpose of carrying highway traffic.

The term ''bridge owner'' means any State, county, municipality, or other political subdivision, or any corporation, association, partnership, or individual owning, or jointly owning, any bridge, and, when any bridge shall be in the possession or under the control of any trustee, receiver, trustee in a case under title 11, or lessee, such terms shall include both the owner of the legal title and the person or the entity in possession or control of such bridge.

The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Transportation.