Effective date.

SEC. 2. The first proviso in section 8 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 is amended by striking out the word "considered" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "shall be complied with".

SEC. 3. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to take away from any preference eligible who files an application before the date on which this Act takes effect any preference in connection with such application which he would have been entitled to under provisions of law in effect immediately prior to such date.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after the date of its enactment.

Approved August 14, 1953.

Public Law 272

AN ACT

To amend the charter of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America so as to limit membership on the National Council of Girl Scouts to citizens of the United States, to authorize meetings of the national council as provided in the constitution, and to authorize an annual report based upon the preceding fiscal year.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That sections 4 and 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and for other purposes", approved March 16, 1950, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 4. There shall be a National Council of Girl Scouts (hereinafter referred to as the 'national council'), which shall have power to make and amend a constitution and bylaws, and to elect a board of directors, and officers and agents. The number, qualifications, and terms of office of members of the national council shall be prescribed by the constitution, except that they shall be citizens of the United States. The constitution may prescribe the number of members of the national council necessary to constitute a quorum, which number may be less than a majority of the whole number. The affairs of the corporation between meetings of the national council shall be managed by a board of directors, except that the bylaws may provide for an executive committee to exercise the powers of the board of directors in the interim between its meetings, and for other committees to operate under the general supervision of the board of directors. The number, qualifications, and terms of office of members of the board of directors shall be prescribed by the constitution. The constitution may prescribe the number of members of the board of directors necessary to constitute a quorum which number shall not be less than twenty, or two-fifths of the whole number. The board of directors, to the extent provided in the constitution and bylaws, shall have the powers of the national council, in the interim between its meetings. The national council, or between meetings thereof, the board of directors, may authorize and cause to be executed leases, mortgages, and liens upon, and sales and conveyances of, any of the property of the corporation; and the proceeds arising therefrom shall be applied or invested for the use and benefit of the corporation.

"Sec. 5. Meetings of the national council shall be held as provided in the constitution, for elections, and to receive the reports of the officers and board of directors. Special meetings may be called as prescribed in the constitution. The national council and the board of directors shall have power to hold meetings and keep the seal, books, documents, and papers of the corporation within or without the District of Columbia."
Sec. 2. Section 7 of such Act is hereby amended to read as follows: “Sec. 7. On or before the first day of April of each year the corporation shall make and transmit to Congress a report of its proceedings for the preceding fiscal year, including a full, complete and itemized report of receipts and expenditures of whatever kind.”

Approved August 14, 1953.

Public Law 273

AN ACT

To authorize the utilization of a limited amount of storage space in Lake Texoma for the purpose of water supply for the City of Denison, Texas.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Chief of Engineers is hereby authorized to contract with the City of Denison, Texas, upon such terms and for such period, not exceeding fifty years, as he may deem reasonable, for the use of not to exceed 21,300 acre-feet of storage space in Lake Texoma, for the purpose of providing said city a regulated water supply in an amount not to exceed 13,000 acre-feet annually: Provided, That the project for Denison Dam authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 28, 1938, as modified by section 4 of the River and Harbor Act of October 17, 1940, is hereby further modified accordingly: Provided further, That all moneys received shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts: Provided further, That nothing in this Act shall affect water rights under State law.

Approved August 14, 1953.

Public Law 274

AN ACT

To provide for abatement of jeopardy assessments when jeopardy does not exist.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) section 273 of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to the abatement of jeopardy assessments of income taxes) is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(a) ABATEMENT IF JEOPARDY DOES NOT EXIST.—The Secretary may abate the jeopardy assessment if he finds that jeopardy does not exist. Such abatement may not be made after a decision of The Tax Court of the United States in respect of the deficiency has been rendered, or, if no petition is filed with The Tax Court of the United States, after the expiration of the period for filing such petition. The period of limitation on the making of assessments and the beginning of distraint or a proceeding in court for collection, in respect of any deficiency, shall be determined as if the jeopardy assessment so abated had not been made, except that the running of such period shall in any event be suspended for the period from the date of such jeopardy assessment until the expiration of the tenth day after the day on which such jeopardy assessment is abated.”

(b) Sections 872 and 1013 (relating to the abatement of jeopardy assessments of estate and gift taxes, respectively) are hereby amended by adding at the end of each of such sections the following new subsection: