States for a period of at least ninety days at any time on or after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the Korean conflict as determined by Presidential proclamation or concurrent resolution of the Congress, and is honorably discharged from the military or naval forces and who makes homestead entry subsequent to such discharge shall have the period of such service, not exceeding two years, construed to be equivalent to residence and cultivation upon the land for the same length of time.".

(b) The proviso at the end of the first section of such Act is amended to read as follows: "*Provided*, That such compliance shall include bona fide cultivation of at least one-eighth of the area entered under the homestead laws: *Provided further*, That no person who has served in the military or naval forces of the United States for a period of at least ninety days at any time on or after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the Korean conflict as determined by Presidential proclamation or concurrent resolution of the Congress, and is honorably discharged shall be disqualified from making homestead entry or from any other benefits of this Act merely by reason of not having reached the age of twenty-one years.".

(c) Section 4 of such Act is amended by striking out "ten years" and inserting in lieu thereof "fifteen years".

Approved June 18, 1954.

Public Law 403 — CHAPTER 307

June 18, 1954
[S. 3096]

AN ACT

To further amend section 4 of the Act of September 9, 1950, in relation to the utilization in an enlisted grade or rank in the Armed Forces of physicians, dentists, or those in an allied specialist category.

Armed Forces physicians, etc.
Appointments.
50 USC app. 454a.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (a) of section 4 of the Act of September 9, 1950 (64 Stat. 828), as that section was amended by section 3 of the Act of June 29, 1953 (67 Stat. 87), is amended by adding the following proviso at the end thereof: "*Provided*, That any person heretofore or hereafter inducted or ordered to active duty under the authority of this Act who fails to qualify for, or to accept, a commission or whose commission is terminated may be utilized in his professional capacity in an enlisted grade or rank."

Approved June 18, 1954.

Public Law 404 — CHAPTER 308

June 18, 1954
[S. 2761]

AN ACT

To approve repayment contracts negotiated with the Hermiston and West Extension Irrigation Districts, Oregon, and to authorize their execution, and for other purposes.

Oregon.
Repayment contracts.
53 Stat. 1192.
43 USC 485f.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the repayment contracts negotiated as provided in subsection (a) of section 7 of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (53 Stat. 1187) by the Secretary of the Interior with the Hermiston Irrigation District dated September 9, 1952, and the West Extension Irrigation District dated September 6, 1952, are approved and the Secretary is authorized to execute them on behalf of the United States.

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SEC. 2. The reclassifications of the lands of the Hermiston Irrigation District and the West Extension Irrigation District of the Umatilla project, Oregon, made in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 and approved by the boards of directors of the irrigation districts, are approved. The Secretary, upon execution of said contracts, is authorized to charge off as a permanent loss to the reclamation fund all costs of the Umatilla project except the amounts provided for return to the United States in the contracts approved in section 1 of this Act or in other outstanding contracts, but no adjustment shall be made by the United States by reason thereof with any individual by way of refund of or credit on sums heretofore paid, repaid, returned, or due or payable to the United States.

Land reclassification.

43 USC 485g.

Approved June 18, 1954.

Public Law 405 CHAPTER 309

AN ACT

June 18, 1954 [S. 2773]

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the transportation and distribution of mails on motor-vehicle routes", approved July 11, 1940 (54 Stat. 756).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the transportation and distribution of mails on motor-vehicle routes", approved July 11, 1940 (54 Stat. 756), is hereby amended by striking out that part which precedes the first proviso and by inserting, in lieu thereof, the following: "The Postmaster General is authorized to use Government-owned motor vehicles or contract for carrying the mails and postal transportation clerks on routes between points where, in his judgment, conditions justify the operation of such service in motor vehicles especially designed and equipped for the distribution of mail en route:".

Postal service. Motor-vehicle routes.

39 USC 505.

Approved June 18, 1954.

Public Law 406 CHAPTER 310

AN ACT

June 18, 1954 [S. 3090]

To authorize the transmission and disposition by the Secretary of the Interior of electric energy generated at Falcon Dam on the Rio Grande.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the electric power and energy generated at Falcon Dam, an international storage reservoir project constructed on the Rio Grande pursuant to the treaty of February 3, 1944, between the United States and Mexico (Treaty Series 994), which is made available to the United States under the provisions of said treaty and under such special agreements as may be concluded between the two Governments pursuant to the provisions of said treaty and not required in the operation of such international project, all as determined by the Commissioner of the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary) who shall transmit and dispose of such power and energy in such manner as to encourage the most widespread use thereof at the lowest possible rates to consumers consistent with sound business principles, the rate schedules to become effective upon confirmation and

Falcon Dam. Transmission and disposition of electric energy.

59 Stat. 1219.