AN ACT

To provide running mates for certain staff corps officers in the naval service, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That paragraph (3) of section 311 (d) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, as amended, is further amended by—

(a) inserting in the first sentence after the comma which follows the parenthetical phrase "(Public Law 347, Seventy-ninth Congress)" the words "or the Act of August 13, 1946 (ch. 962, 60 Stat. 1057), and except those appointed from graduates of the United States Naval Academy,"; and

(b) Substituting a colon for the period at the end of the paragraph and adding the following: "Provided further, That each officer appointed in the grade of ensign in the Navy under the Act of August 13, 1946 (ch. 962, 60 Stat. 1057), or upon graduation from the United States Naval Academy who is serving as an officer in a staff corps at the time of his promotion to lieutenant (junior grade) shall, upon promotion, be assigned as his running mate the line lieutenant (junior grade) with date of rank in the same calendar year who would be next senior to him had the officer of the staff corps been originally appointed to the grade of ensign in the line and continued to serve as a line officer to the date of his promotion to lieutenant (junior grade) or if there be no such officer the line officer who would have been next junior."

Sec. 2. Each officer of a staff corps, who is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy or who was appointed as an ensign under the Act of August 13, 1946 (ch. 962, 60 Stat. 1057), and who prior to the effective date of this Act, was assigned a running mate in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) under paragraph (3) of section 311 (d) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, as amended, shall have assigned as his running mate, in the grade in which he is serving on the effective date of this Act, the line officer who would have been his running mate in that grade had paragraph (3) of section 311 (d) been amended as provided in section 1 of this Act prior to the date upon which he was assigned a running mate in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade).

Sec. 3. No back pay or allowances shall accrue to any officer of the naval service as the result of the enactment of this Act.

Approved June 15, 1956.

AN ACT

Relating to withholding for State employee retirement system purposes, on the compensation of certain civilian employees of the National Guard and the Air National Guard.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That where—

(1) the law of any State or Territory provides for the payment of employee contributions to State or Territorial employee retirement systems by withholding sums from the compensation of State or Territorial employees and making returns of such sums to the authorities of such State or Territory; and
(2) civilian employees of the National Guard and the Air National Guard other than those employed by the National Guard Bureau are eligible for membership in a State or Territorial employee retirement system, then the Secretary of Defense, pursuant to such regulation as may be promulgated by the President, is authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with such State or Territory within one hundred and twenty days of the request for agreement from the proper official of such State or Territory. Such agreement shall provide that the Department of Defense shall comply with the requirements of such law in the case of employees subject to this Act who are eligible for membership in a retirement system for State or Territorial employees, and the disbursing officers paying such employees shall withhold and pay over to such retirement system the employee contributions for such employees.

Approved June 15, 1956.

Public Law 583

AN ACT

To provide for renewal of and adjustment of compensation under contracts for carrying mail on water routes.

Postal Service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the last two paragraphs of section 3951 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (39 U. S. C. 434), are amended by striking out the word "inland" wherever it appears in such paragraphs.

Approved June 15, 1956.

Public Law 584

AN ACT

To provide for the examination preliminary to promotion of officers of the naval service.

Navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1496 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

"No officer in the grade of ensign in the Regular Navy shall be promoted permanently to the next higher grade on the active list of the Navy until he shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of a board of examining officers such mental, moral, and professional qualifications as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe. No officer in a grade above that of ensign and below that of captain shall be promoted to the next higher grade on the active list until he shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of a board of examining officers such professional qualifications as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe. The Secretary of the Navy shall issue regulations governing the procedures to be followed by such examining boards as he may convene from time to time, including regulations to insure a full and fair hearing to officers whose cases come before the boards and who demand a hearing. The Secretary of the Navy may, in his discretion, suspend in whole or in part the operation of the provisions of this section in connection with the promotion of officers under the Act of July 24, 1941 (55 Stat. 603), as amended."