

February 12, 1918.
[S. J. Res. 128.]

[Pub. Res., No. 22.]

War Risk Insurance
Bureau.
Insurance applica-
tions accepted to April
12, 1918.
Ante, p. 409, amend-
ed.
Post, p. 614.

Proviso.
Automatic insurance
not extended.

CHAP. 17.—Joint Resolution Granting to certain persons in the active war service an extension of time within which application for insurance may be made under section four hundred and one of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the establishment of a Bureau of War Risk Insurance in the Treasury Department," approved September second, nineteen hundred and fourteen, as amended by the Act approved October sixth, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time within which application for insurance may be made as set forth in section four hundred and one of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the establishment of a Bureau of War Risk Insurance in the Treasury Department," approved September second, nineteen hundred and fourteen, as amended by the Act approved October sixth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, is hereby extended, with respect to every person in the active war service as to whom the time for making application would expire before the twelfth day of April, nineteen hundred and eighteen, so that every such person may make application for insurance up to and including the said twelfth day of April, nineteen hundred and eighteen: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall be construed to effect an extension of the automatic insurance provided for in the said section four hundred and one beyond the twelfth day of February, nineteen hundred and eighteen.

Approved, February 12, 1918.

March 1, 1918.
[S. 3389.]

[Public, No. 102.]

Houses, etc., for ship-
yard employees.
Authority of Fleet
Corporation.
Post, p. 535.

Purchase, etc., of
sites for houses.

Build houses for em-
ployees and families on
acquired sites.

Acquire houses, etc.,
for use of employees.

Management of prop-
erty, etc.

Loans to persons pro-
viding houses, etc.

Determine and pay
for property taken.

CHAP. 19.—An Act To authorize and empower the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation to purchase, lease, requisition, or otherwise acquire, and to sell or otherwise dispose of improved or unimproved land, houses, buildings, and for other purposes.

Re it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation is hereby authorized and empowered within the limits of the amounts herein authorized—

(a) To purchase, lease, requisition, including the requisition of the temporary use of, or acquire by condemnation or otherwise any improved or unimproved land or any interest therein suitable for the construction thereon of houses for the use of employees and the families of employees of shipyards in which ships are being constructed for the United States.

(b) To construct on such land for the use of such employees and their families houses and all other necessary or convenient facilities, upon such conditions and at such price as may be determined by it, and to sell, lease, or exchange such houses, land, and facilities upon such terms and conditions as it may determine.

(c) To purchase, lease, requisition, including the requisition of the temporary use of, or acquire by condemnation or otherwise any houses or other buildings for the use of such employees and their families, together with the land on which the same are erected, or any interest therein, all necessary and proper fixtures and furnishings therefor, and all necessary and convenient facilities incidental thereto; to manage, repair, sell, lease, or exchange such lands, houses, buildings, fixtures, furnishings and facilities upon such terms and conditions as it may determine to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(d) To make loans to persons, firms, or corporations in such manner upon such terms and security, and for such time not exceeding ten years, as it may determine to provide houses and facilities for the employees and the families of employees of such shipyards.

Whenever said United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation shall acquire by requisition or condemnation such property or any interest therein, it shall determine and make just compensation therefor, and if the amount thereof so determined is unsatisfactory to the person entitled to receive the same, such

person shall be paid seventy-five per centum of the amount so determined, and shall be entitled to sue the United States to recover such further sum as added to such seventy-five per centum will make such an amount as will be just compensation for the property or interest therein so taken, in the manner provided by section twenty-four, paragraph twenty, and section one hundred and forty-five of the Judicial Code.

Suit, etc., if amount unsatisfactory.

Procedure.
Vol. 36, pp. 1093, 1136.

That whenever the said United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation shall requisition any property or rights, or upon the filing of a petition for condemnation hereunder, immediate possession may be taken by it of such land, houses, or other property, rights, and facilities, to the extent of the interests to be acquired therein, and the same may be immediately occupied and used, and the provisions of section three hundred and fifty-five of the Revised Statutes, providing that no public money shall be expended upon such land until the written opinion of the Attorney General shall be had in favor of the validity of the title nor until the consent of the legislature of the State in which the land is located has been given, shall be, and the same are hereby, suspended as to all land acquired hereunder.

Immediate possession of property authorized.

Restriction as to title, etc., suspended.
R. S., sec. 355, p. 60.

The power to acquire property by purchase, lease, requisition, or condemnation, or to construct houses, or other buildings, and to make loans, or otherwise extend aid as herein granted shall cease with the termination of the present war with Germany. The date of the conclusion of the war shall be declared by proclamation of the President.

Powers to cease on termination of war.

The word "person" used herein shall include a trustee, firm, or corporation. The word "shipyard" shall include any factory, workshop, warehouse, engine works, buildings, or grounds used for manufacturing, assembling, construction, or other process in shipyards and dockyards and discharging terminals, and other facilities connected therewith, now or hereafter used in connection with shipbuilding.

Terms construed.

That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act the expenditure of \$50,000,000 is hereby authorized, and in executing the authority granted by this Act, the said United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation shall not expend or obligate the United States to expend more than the said sum, nor shall any contract for construction be entered into which provides that the compensation of the contractor shall be the cost of construction plus a percentage thereof for profit, unless such contract shall also fix the reasonable cost of such construction as determined by the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation and provide that upon any increase in cost above the reasonable cost so fixed by such board, the percentage of profit shall decrease as the cost increases in accordance with a rate to be fixed by said board and expressed in the contract. No contract shall be let without the approval of the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation: *Provided, however,* That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent said board from contracting for the payment of premiums or bonuses for the speedy completion of the work contracted for: *Provided further,* That the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation shall report to Congress on the first Monday in December of each year the names of all persons or corporations with whom it has made contracts and of such subcontractors as may be employed in furtherance of this Act, including a statement of the purposes and amounts thereof, together with a detailed statement of all expenditures by contract or otherwise for land, buildings, material, labor, salaries, commissions, demurrage, or other charges in excess of \$10,000.

Expenditure authorized.

Post, p. 651.
Limitations.

Provisos.
Premiums, etc., for speedy completion.

Report to Congress.

Detailed statement of all expenditures in excess of \$10,000.

Approved, March 1, 1918.

March 8, 1918.
[H. R. 6361.]

[Public, No. 103.]

CHAP. 20.—An Act To extend protection to the civil rights of members of the Military and Naval Establishments of the United States engaged in the present war.

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

Soldiers' and Sailors'
Civil Relief Act.

ARTICLE I.

General Provisions.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Suspension of civil
legal proceedings, etc.,
against persons in mili-
tary service during the
war.

SEC. 100. That for the purpose of enabling the United States the more successfully to prosecute and carry on the war in which it is at present engaged, protection is hereby extended to persons in military service of the United States in order to prevent prejudice or injury to their civil rights during their term of service and to enable them to devote their entire energy to the military needs of the Nation, and to this end the following provisions are made for the temporary suspension of legal proceedings and transactions which may prejudice the civil rights of persons in such service during the continuance of the present war.

Definitions of terms.
"Persons in military
service."
Army organizations.

SEC. 101. (1) That the term "persons in military service," as used in this Act, shall include the following persons and no others: All officers and enlisted men of the Regular Army, the Regular Army Reserve, the Officers' Reserve Corps, and the Enlisted Reserve Corps; all officers and enlisted men of the National Guard and National Guard Reserve recognized by the Militia Bureau of the War Department; all forces raised under the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the President to increase temporarily the Military Establishment of the United States," approved May eighteenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen; all officers and enlisted men of the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard; all officers and enlisted men of the Naval Militia, Naval Reserve force, Marine Corps Reserve, and National Naval Volunteers recognized by the Navy Department; all officers of the Public Health Service detailed by the Secretary of the Treasury for duty either with the Army or the Navy; any of the personnel of the Lighthouse Service and of the Coast and Geodetic Survey transferred by the President to the service and jurisdiction of the War Department or of the Navy Department; members of the Nurse Corps; Army field clerks; field clerks, Quartermaster Corps; civilian clerks and employees on duty with the military forces detailed for service abroad in accordance with provisions of existing law; and members of any other body who have heretofore or may hereafter become a part of the military or naval forces of the United States. The term "military service," as used in this definition, shall signify active service in any branch of service heretofore mentioned or referred to, but reserves and persons on the retired list shall not be included in the term "persons in military service" until ordered to active service. The term "active service" shall include the period during which a person in military service is absent from duty on account of sickness, wounds, leave, or other lawful cause.

Army, p. 76.

Navy organizations.

Public Health, Light-
house, and Coast Sur-
vey.

Nurse Corps, field
clerks, etc.

Restricted to active
service.

Extension during pe-
riod of specified ab-
sence.

"Period of military
service."

Dates included.

Termination.

"Person."

(2) The term "period of military service," as used in this Act, shall include the time between the following dates: For persons in active service at the date of the approval of this Act it shall begin with the date of approval of this Act; for persons entering active service after the date of this Act, with the date of entering active service. It shall terminate with the date of discharge from active service or death while in active service, but in no case later than the date when this Act ceases to be in force.

(3) The term "person," as used in this Act, with reference to the holder of any right alleged to exist against a person in military service or against a person secondarily liable under such right, shall include