CLAIMS ALLOWED BY THE AUDITOR FOR THE POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

For limited indemnity for lost registered mail, nine dollars.
For star transportation, three hundred and twenty-seven dollars and twenty-seven cents.
For miscellaneous items, first and second class offices, one hundred and twenty-two dollars and forty-five cents.

Approved, March 4, 1907, 11 a.m.

CHAP. 2920.—An Act Making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eight, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eight, and for other purposes, namely:

For army and navy pensions, as follows: For invalids, widows, minor children, and dependent relatives, army nurses, and all other pensioners who are now borne on the rolls, or who may hereafter be placed thereon, under the provisions of any and all Acts of Congress, one hundred and forty-five million dollars: Provided, That the appropriation aforesaid for navy pensions shall be paid from the income of the navy pension fund, so far as the same shall be sufficient for that purpose: Provided further, That the amount expended under each of the above items shall be accounted for separately: And provided further, That hereafter the age of sixty-two years and over shall be considered a permanent specific disability within the meaning of the pension laws: And provided further, That the benefits of the Act of February sixth, nineteen hundred and seven, entitled “An Act granting pensions to certain enlisted men, soldiers, and officers who served in the civil war and the war with Mexico,” are hereby extended to include any person who served the period of time therein specified during the late civil war or in the war with Mexico and who is now or may hereafter become entitled to pension under the Acts of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and the joint resolution of July first, nineteen hundred and two, or the Acts of January twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, and February seventeenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

For fees and expenses of examining surgeons, pensions, for services rendered within the fiscal year nineteen hundred and eight, six hundred thousand dollars. And each member of each examining board shall, as now authorized by law, receive the sum of two dollars for the examination of each applicant whenever five or a less number shall be examined on any one day, and one dollar for the examination of each additional applicant on such day: Provided, That if twenty or more applicants appear on one day, no fewer than twenty shall, if practicable, be examined on said day, and that if fewer examinations be then made, twenty or more having appeared, then there shall be paid for the first examinations made on the next examination day the fee of one dollar only until twenty examinations shall have been made: Provided further, That no fee shall be paid to any member of an examining board unless personally present and assisting in the examination of applicant: And provided further, That the report of such examining
surgeons shall specifically state the rating which in their judgment the applicant is entitled to, and the report of such examining surgeons shall specifically and accurately set forth the physical condition of the applicant, each and every existing disability being fully and carefully described. The reports of the special examiners of the Bureau of Pensions shall be open to inspection and copy by the applicant or his attorney, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe: And provided further, That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services rendered in securing the introduction of a bill or the passage thereof through Congress granting pension or increase of pension; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain any compensation for such services shall be deemed guilty of an offense, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisoned not exceeding two years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

For salaries of eighteen agents for the payment of pensions, at four thousand dollars each, seventy-two thousand dollars. Provided, That the Secretary of the Interior shall make inquiry and report to Congress at the beginning of its next regular session the effect of a reduction of the present pension agencies to one such agency upon the economic execution of the pension laws, the prompt and efficient payment of pensioners, and the inconvenience to pensioners, if any, which would result from such reduction. This provision shall not be construed as interfering with or limiting the right or power of the President under existing law in respect to reduction or consolidation of existing pension agencies.

For clerk hire, and other services, in the pension agencies, four hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars: Provided, That the amount of clerk hire, and other services, for each agency, shall be apportioned as nearly as practicable in proportion to the number of pensioners paid at each agency and the salaries paid shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

For rent, New York agency, four thousand five hundred dollars.

For stationery and other necessary expenses, thirty thousand dollars.

Approved, March 4, 1907, 11 a. m.

CHAP. 2921.—An Act To reinstate Leonard Martin Cox in the Corps of Civil Engineers of the Navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to restore, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, Leonard Martin Cox, formerly a civil engineer in the United States Navy, to the Corps of Civil Engineers of the Navy, to take rank next after Civil Engineer Fred Thompson: Provided, That said Leonard Martin Cox shall establish to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Navy, by examination pursuant to law, his physical, mental, moral, and professional fitness to perform the duties of that grade: And provided further, That the said Leonard Martin Cox shall be carried as an additional to the number of the grade to which he may be appointed under this Act, or at any time thereafter: And provided further, That the said Leonard Martin Cox shall not by the passage of this Act be entitled to back pay of any kind.

Approved, March 4, 1907, 11 a. m.