their official station, together with their per diem in lieu of subsistence, when allowed pursuant to section 13 of the Sundry Civil Appropriation Act approved August 1, 1914; supplies and equipment, telegraph and telephone service, and miscellaneous expenses, $210,000.

Approved, January 5, 1923.

CHAP. 25.—An Act To distribute the commissioned line and engineer officers of the Coast Guard in grades, 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 number of permanent commissioned line officers of the Coast Guard now authorized by law shall be distributed in grades, as follows: One commandant, seven captains, twelve commanders, thirty-five lieutenant commanders, thirty-seven lieutenants, and seventy-seven lieutenants (junior grade) and ensigns; and the number of permanent commissioned engineer officers now authorized by law shall be distributed in grades, as follows: One engineer in chief, three captains (engineering), six commanders (engineering), twelve lieutenant commanders (engineering), twenty-two lieutenants (engineering), and forty-two lieutenants (junior grade) (engineering) and ensigns (engineering). Promotions to the grades created by this Act, namely, captain, captain (engineering), and commander (engineering), shall be made from the next lower grade by seniority: Provided, That lieutenants and lieutenants (junior grade), both line and engineering, may be promoted, subject to examination as provided by law, without regard to number or length of service in grade, to such grades in the Coast Guard not above lieutenant commander or lieutenant commander (engineering) as correspond to the permanent ranks and grades that may be attained in accordance with law by line officers of the Regular Navy of the same length of total commissioned service, and officers thus promoted shall be extra numbers in their respective grades, which extra numbers shall not at any one time exceed the following, respectively: Twenty lieutenant commanders, fifteen lieutenants, fifteen lieutenant commanders (engineering), and eight lieutenants (engineering), but no officer shall be promoted under this proviso who would thereby be advanced in rank ahead of an officer in the same grade and corps whose name stands above his on the official precedence list: Provided further, That captains and captains (engineering) shall have the rank of, and be of corresponding grade to, captains in the Navy, and commanders (engineering) shall have the rank of, and be of corresponding grade to, commanders in the Navy.

Sec. 2. That the title of captain commandant in the Coast Guard is hereby changed to commandant. Hereafter the commandant shall be selected from the active list of line officers not below the grade of commander and shall have, while serving as commandant, the rank, pay, and allowances of a rear admiral (lower half) of the Navy: Provided, That any officer who shall hereafter serve as commandant shall, when retired, be retired with the rank of commander and with the pay of a rear admiral (lower half) of the Navy on the retired list, and that an officer whose term of service as commandant has expired may be appointed a captain and shall be an additional number in that grade; but if not so appointed, he shall take the place on the lineal list in the grade that he would have attained had he not served as commandant and be an additional number in such grade: Provided further, That the engineer in chief, while so serving, shall have the rank, pay, and allowances of a captain (engi-
neering) in the Coast Guard, and hereafter the engineer in chief shall be selected from the active list of engineer officers not below the grade of lieutenant commander (engineering): And provided further, That an officer who shall hereafter serve as engineer in chief shall, when retired, be retired with the rank of engineer in chief and with the pay of a captain (engineering) on the retired list, and that an officer whose term of service as engineer in chief has expired may be appointed a commander (engineering) and shall be an additional number in that grade; but if not so appointed, he shall take the place on the lineal list in the grade that he would have attained had he not served as engineer in chief and be an additional number in such grade: And provided further, That a constructor, after ten years' commissioned service in the Revenue-Cutter Service and Coast Guard, shall have the rank, pay, and allowances of a lieutenant commander, and after twenty years' commissioned service the rank, pay, and allowances of a commander.

Sec. 3. That hereafter no commissioned officer of the Coast Guard shall be promoted to a higher grade or rank on the active list, except to commandant or to engineer in chief, until his mental, moral, and professional fitness to perform all the duties of such higher grade or rank have been established to the satisfaction of a board of examining officers appointed by the President, and until he has been examined by a board of medical officers and pronounced physically qualified to perform all the duties of such higher grade or rank: Provided, That if any commissioned officer shall fail in his physical examination for promotion and be found incapacitated for service by reason of physical disability contracted in the line of duty, he shall be retired with the rank to which his seniority entitled him to be promoted: Provided further, That hereafter when a commissioned officer of the Coast Guard who has had forty years' service shall retire, he shall be placed on the retired list with the rank and retired pay of one grade above that actually held by him at the time of retirement; and, in the case of a captain, the rank and retired pay of one grade above shall be the rank of commodore and the pay of a commodore in the Navy on the retired list.

Sec. 4. That an ensign, an ensign (engineering), or a district superintendent with the rank of ensign, shall be required to complete three years' service in his grade, after which he shall be eligible for promotion to the next higher grade without regard to the number already in that higher grade.

Sec. 5. That nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to reduce the rank, pay, or allowances of any commissioned officer of the Coast Guard as now provided by law.

Approved, January 12, 1923.