facilities permit, and when, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Navy, such repair, purchase, acquirement, or production would not involve an appreciable increase in cost to the Government.

Approved, March 2, 1927.

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CHAP. 270.—An Act Granting certain lands to the State of New Mexico for the use and benefit of New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, for the purpose of conducting educational, demonstrative, and experimental development with livestock, grazing methods, and range forage plants.

**Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,** That there is hereby granted to the State of New Mexico for the use and benefit of New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, located at State College, New Mexico, to be used for the purpose of conducting educational, demonstrative, and experimental development with livestock, grazing methods, and range forage plants, the following-described lands out of the unreserved and unappropriated public domain situated in the State of New Mexico, to wit:

All of township 20 south, range 1 west, New Mexico principal meridian, except sections 1 to 5, both inclusive; north half of northeast quarter of section 8, north half and southeast quarter of section 9, all of sections 10 to 13, both inclusive; north half, southeast quarter and north half of southwest quarter of section 14, northeast quarter and east half of northwest quarter of section 15, all of section 16, northeast quarter and north half of northwest quarter of section 24, all of section 32, that part of sections 30 and 31 lying south and west of the Rio Grande River and all of section 36 therein; all of township 20 south, range 1 east, New Mexico principal meridian, except sections 2, 16, 32, and 36 therein; all of southwest quarter of southwest quarter of section 19 and all of sections 30 and 31 in township 20 south, range 2 east, New Mexico principal meridian; all of the east half of the southeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 13, and the east half of the east half of section 24, in township 20 south, range 2 west, New Mexico principal meridian; all of section 1 and the east half of section 12, township 21 south, range 1 west, New Mexico principal meridian; all of township 21 south, range 1 east, New Mexico principal meridian, except sections 2, 16, 24, 25, 30, 31, 32, and 36 and the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 29 therein; and all of sections 6, 7, and 18 in township 21 south, range 2 east, New Mexico principal meridian: **Provided,** That the control and management of said lands shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents of the said New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and the State of New Mexico shall make no charge against nor collect any rental from said college for the possession and use thereof.

**Sec. 2.** Such grant shall not include any land which, on the date of the approval of this Act, is covered by any existing bona fide right or claim under the laws of the United States, unless and until such right or claim is relinquished or extinguished, except, that lands embraced in permits to prospect for oil, gas or other minerals shall be included in the grant to the State, the minerals therein being reserved to the United States as provided in section 3 hereof.

**Sec. 3.** There is hereby reserved to the United States all minerals that may be found in the lands granted by the provisions hereof, together with the right of the United States, its permittees, lessees, or grantees, at any time, to prospect for, mine, and remove such minerals.
Sec. 4. In the event that the lands herein granted, or any part thereof, shall cease to be used for the purposes specified in section 1, or shall be used for any other purpose foreign to those for which this grant is made, title thereto shall thereupon revert to the United States.

Approved, March 2, 1927.

CHAP. 271.—An Act Making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of such District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to defray the expenses of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, any revenue (not including the proportionate share of the United States in any revenue arising as the result of the expenditure of appropriations made for the fiscal year 1924 and prior fiscal years) now required by law to be credited to the District of Columbia and the United States in the same proportion that each contributed to the activity or source from whence such revenue was derived shall be credited wholly to the District of Columbia, and, in addition, $9,000,000 is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to be advanced July 1, 1927, and all the remainder out of the combined revenues of the District of Columbia and such advances from the Federal Treasury as are authorized in the District of Columbia Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1923, namely:

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For personal services in accordance with the Classification Act of 1923, $43,240, plus so much as may be necessary to make salary of engineer commissioner $7,500: Provided, That in expending appropriations or portions of appropriations contained in this Act for the payment for personal services in accordance with the Classification Act of 1923, the average of the salaries of the total number of persons under any grade in any bureau, office, or other appropriation unit shall not at any time exceed the average of the compensation rates specified for the grade by such Act, and in grades in which only one position is allocated the salary of such position shall not exceed the average of the compensation rates for the grade, except that in unusually meritorious cases of one position in a grade advances may be made to rates higher than the average of the compensation rates of the grade, but not more often than once in any fiscal year, and then only to the next higher rate: Provided, That this restriction shall not apply (1) to grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the clerical-mechanical service; (2) to require the reduction in salary of any person whose compensation was fixed, as of July 1, 1924, in accordance with the rules of section 6 of such Act; (3) to require the reduction in salary of any person who is transferred from one position to another position in the same or different grade in the same or a different bureau, office, or other appropriation unit; or (4) to prevent the payment of a salary under any grade at a rate higher than the maximum rate of the grade when such higher rate is permitted by the Classification Act of 1923 and is specifically authorized by other law;