Officers in grades of district commander and constructor on active duty are hereby transferred to the line of the Coast Guard and shall be commissioned in the grades of commander, lieutenant commander, and lieutenant, according to the ranks held by them on the date of such transfer, and shall when so transferred and commissioned take precedence (1) with each other in their respective grades, according to length of commissioned service as district commander or constructor, as the case may be; (2) with other line officers in such grades, according to length of service in the ranks held by them on the date of such transfer; and (3) in higher grades to which they may be promoted, according to the dates of commissions in such higher grades: Provided, That the President is hereby authorized to appoint Charles Walker to the grade of lieutenant commander with precedence next after Irwin B. Steele. Each officer commissioned pursuant to this section shall be an extra number in his grade and in the grades to which he may be promoted, and shall be eligible for promotion, if otherwise qualified, whenever the officer in a regular number in line of promotion next above him on the seniority list becomes eligible for promotion; or if there be no such officer in his grade, he shall be eligible for promotion, if otherwise qualified, when a vacancy occurs in the next higher grade. Any officer commissioned pursuant to this section shall be assigned to duty in his specialty and the professional examination of such officer for promotion shall embrace only those subjects pertaining to such specialty.

SEC. 2. Each vacancy existing in the grade of constructor and in the grade of district commander on the date of the approval of this Act, and each vacancy which shall hereafter occur in the extra number of officers commissioned pursuant to this Act, shall operate to increase by one the total number of line officers in the Coast Guard authorized by section 1 of the Act of March 2, 1929 (45 Stat. 1533), as amended.

SEC. 3. No officer commissioned pursuant to this Act shall suffer any reduction in rank, pay, or allowances, by reason of the provisions of this Act, or lose any right to promotion which he would have had but for the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. The grades of district commander and constructor on the active list in the Coast Guard are hereby abolished and all provisions of law in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, August 5, 1939.

[CHAPTER 479]

AN ACT

Authorizing the Secretary of War to permit Salt Lake City, Utah, to construct and maintain certain roads, streets, and boulevards across the Fort Douglas Military Reservation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is authorized to permit the Board of Commissioners of Salt Lake City, Utah, to construct and maintain such roads, streets, and boulevards across lands of the United States located within the Fort Douglas Military Reservation in the State of Utah as he may determine will not interfere with the use of such lands in such manner as the public interest may require. Any grant of permission to construct and maintain such road, street, or boulevard shall be made subject to such conditions as the Secretary may prescribe for the purpose of protecting the public interest.

Approved, August 5, 1939.