

owned by the Government within the national forests therein as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture from such information, investigation, sources, and departments as the Secretary of Agriculture may deem most accurate.

(b) Cooperation of Territories, States, and civil subdivisions thereof may be accepted but shall not be required by the Secretary of Agriculture.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture may enter into contracts with any Territory, State, or civil subdivision thereof for the construction, reconstruction, or maintenance of any forest road or trail or part thereof.

(d) Construction work on forest roads or trails estimated to cost \$5,000 or more per mile, exclusive of bridges, shall be advertised and let to contract.

If such estimated cost is less than \$5,000 per mile, or if, after proper advertising, no acceptable bid is received, or the bids are deemed excessive, the work may be done by the Secretary of Agriculture on his own account; and for such purpose the Secretary of Agriculture may purchase, lease, hire, rent, or otherwise obtain all necessary supplies, materials, tools, equipment, and facilities required to perform the work.

The appropriation made in this section or that may hereafter be made for expenditure under the provision of this section may be expended for the purpose herein authorized and for the payment of wages, salaries, and other expenses for help employed in connection with such work.

Sec. 24. That in any State where the existing constitution or laws will not permit the State to provide revenues for the construction, reconstruction, or maintenance of highways, the Secretary of Agriculture shall continue to approve projects for said State until three years after the passage of this act, if he shall find that said State has complied with the provisions of this act in so far as its existing constitution and laws will permit.

Sec. 25. That if any provision of this act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the act and of the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 26. That all acts or parts of acts in any way inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed, and this act shall take effect on its passage.

Approved, November 9, 1921.

POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION ACT OF JUNE 19, 1922

[42 Stat. 660]

An Act Making appropriations for the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes

* * * * *

SEC. 4. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the act entitled "An act to provide that the United States shall aid the States in the construction of rural post roads, and for other purposes," approved June 11, 1916, and all acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the following additional sums, all such sums to be expended in accordance with the provisions of such act:

The sum of \$50,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923.

The sum of \$65,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924.

The sum of \$75,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925.

The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized, immediately upon the passage of this act, to apportion the \$50,000,000 herein authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, among the several States as provided in section 21 of the Federal highway act approved November 9, 1921: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall act upon projects submitted to him under his apportionment of this authorization and his approval of any such project shall be deemed a contractual obligation of the Federal Government for the payment of its proportional contribution thereto.

PAR. 2. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 23 of the Federal highway act, approved November 9, 1921, there is hereby authorized