

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 1945

No. 34

UNITED FEDERAL WORKERS OF AMERICA  
(C. I. O.), ET AL., APPELLANTS,

*vs.*

HARRY B. MITCHELL, LUCILLE FOSTER McMIL-  
LIN AND ARTHUR S. FLEMING

APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR  
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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[fol. a] [Caption omitted]

[fol. 1]

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

24007

UNITED FEDERAL WORKERS OF AMERICA (C. I. O.), 1338 Eye Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Patrick T. Fagan, 822 Woodbourne Avenue, Brookline, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Harry V. Winegar, 1750 Beach Street, San Francisco, California; Jack M. Elkin, 541 Roscoe Street, Chicago, Illinois; Rudolph Hinden, 4001 Barrington Road, Baltimore, Maryland; George P. Poole, 2413 No. Bouvier Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Olivia Israeli Abelson, 138 Lynhaven Drive, Alexandria, Virginia; Joseph D. Phillips, 1453 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Charles G. Shane, 1918 Briggs Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Albert J. Rieck, 2136A N. 62nd St., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; Richard Weber, 3783 Pennypack Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; L. E. Tempest, 2531 North 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Margery Mitchell, 1309 Montgomery St., San Francisco, California, Plaintiffs,

v.

HARRY B. MITCHELL, LUCILLE FOSTER McMILLIN and ARTHUR S. FLEMMIN, Defendants

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTION AND FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF—  
Filed April 25, 1944

To the Honorable Justices of the District Court of the  
United States for the District of Columbia:

[fol. 2] This is an action to enjoin defendants, purporting to act as members of the United States Civil Service Commission, from enforcing, threatening to enforce, or otherwise acting pursuant to the second sentence of Section 9 (a), 18 U. S. C. Section 61h (a), and for a declaratory judgment of the invalidity of these provisions of law, and regulations incorporated into these provisions, or promulgated pursuant thereto.

1. Jurisdiction of this action is invoked under the provisions of Section 11-306 of the District of Columbia Code, 28 U. S. C. Ø 380 (a), and 28 U. S. C. Ø 400.

2. Plaintiff United Federal Workers of America is an unincorporated association, a labor union, whose national office is located at 1338 Eye Street, Northwest, in the District of Columbia. Its membership is composed of employees of the United States Government, and it is affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations (hereinafter referred to as C. I. O.) Its membership includes employees of the Federal Government, in addition to the individual plaintiffs herein, who are within the classified civil service and subject to the provisions of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act.

3. Plaintiff Patrick T. Fagan is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and is employed by the War Manpower Commission as Area Director, Area IX. This position is under the classified civil service.

4. Plaintiff Harry V. Winegar is a citizen of the United States, a resident of San Francisco, California, and is employed by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice as Senior Officer. This position is under the classified civil service.

5. Plaintiff Jack M. Elkin is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Chicago, Illinois and is employed by the Railroad Retirement Board as Senior Economic Statistician. This position is under the classified civil service.

6. Plaintiff Rudolph Hindin is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Baltimore, Maryland, and is employed by the Federal Security Agency as Procedural Assistant. This position is under the classified civil service.

7. Plaintiff George P. Poole is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is employed by the United States Mint as a Roller. This position is under the classified civil service.

8. Plaintiff Olivia Israeli Abelson is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Alexandria, Virginia, and is employed by the Social Security Board of the Federal Se-

curity Agency as Associate Financial Analyst. This position is under the classified civil service.

9. Plaintiff Joseph D. Phillips is a citizen of the United States, a resident of the District of Columbia, and is employed by the War Shipping Administration as Labor Economist. This position is under the classified civil service.

[fol. 3] 10. Plaintiff Charles G. Shane is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is employed by the Frankford Arsenal of the War Department as Lens Grinder, Senior. This position is under the classified civil service.

11. Plaintiff Albert J. Rieck is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and is employed by the Veterans Administration at Wood, Wisconsin as Stock Clerk. This position is under the classified civil service.

12. Plaintiff Richard Weber is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is employed by the Frankfort Branch of the War Department as Machinist Specialist. This position is under the classified civil service.

13. Plaintiff L. E. Tempest is a citizen of the United States, a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is employed by the Philadelphia Navy Yard as Electric Welder. This position is under the classified civil service.

14. Plaintiff Margery Mitchell is a citizen of the United States, a resident of San Francisco, California, and is employed by the National War Labor Board as Wage Analyst. This position is under the classified civil service.

15. Defendants Harry B. Mitchell, Lucille Foster McMullen, and Arthur S. Flemming are individuals found, doing business, and resident in the District of Columbia, with offices at 7th and F Streets, Northwest, in the District of Columbia, and purporting to act as the United States Civil Service Commission.

16. The major purpose for which the United Federal Workers of America (hereinafter referred to as UFWA) is organized is the improvement of working conditions of employees of the Federal Government. Since salary, hours

of work, and other conditions of employment are fixed by statute, the membership of UFWA must engage in legislative activity to achieve these objectives.

In addition, UFWA members and other government employees are affected by legislative action relating to cost of living, rights of organized and unorganized workers and the conduct of the war. Therefore, UFWA members have a vital interest in the election of representatives to Congress who will strive to improve the conditions of Federal workers, keep down the cost of living, protect the rights of organized and unorganized workers and constructively aid in the conduct of the war.

17. As a national organization, the United Federal Workers of America has an interest in protecting and restoring the rights of its membership. It brings this action as a representative of, and on behalf of, all of its members, including those who have not specifically joined in suing individually, who are subject to the provisions of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act.

18. In discharge of their duties of citizenship, of their right to vote, and in exercise of their constitutional rights of freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, and the right to engage in political activity, the individual plaintiffs [fol. 4] desire to engage in the following acts: write for publication letters and articles in support of candidates for office; be connected editorially with publications which are identified with the legislative program of UFWA and candidates who support it; solicit votes, aid in getting out voters, act as accredited checker, watcher, or challenger; transport voters to and from the polls without compensation therefor; participate in and help in organizing political parades; initiate petitions, and canvass for the signatures of others on such petitions; serve as party ward committeeman or other party official; and perform any and all acts not prohibited by any provision of law other than the second sentence of Section 9(a) and Section 15 of the Hatch Act, which constitute taking an active part in political management and political campaigns. In the case of the plaintiff Poole, he has performed many of those acts in the past and intends to continue in this course of conduct.

19. Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, as amended, 53 Stat. 1148; 54 Stat. 767, U. S. C. Ø 61, provides in part:

“No officer or employee in the executive branch of the Federal Government, or any agency or department thereof, except a part-time officer or part-time employee without compensation or with nominal compensation serving in connection with the existing war effort, other than in any capacity relating to the procurement or manufacture of war materials, shall take any active part in political management or in political campaigns. All such persons shall retain the right to vote as they may choose and to express their opinions on all political subjects. For the purpose of this section the term “officer” or “employee” shall not be construed to include (1) the President and Vice President of the United States; (2) persons whose compensation is paid from the appropriation for the office of the President; (3) heads and assistant heads of executive departments; (4) officers who are appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who determine policies to be pursued by the United States in its relations with foreign powers or in the Nation-wide administration of Federal laws.”

20. Section 15 of the Hatch Act, as amended, 54 Stat. 767; 18 U. S. C. Ø 15, provides:

“The provisions of this Act which prohibit persons to whom such provisions apply from taking any active part in political management or in political campaigns shall be deemed to prohibit the same activities on the part of such persons as the United States Civil Service Commission has heretofore determined are at the time this section takes effect prohibited on the part of employees in the classified civil service of the United States by the provisions of the civil service rules prohibiting such employees from taking any active part in political management or in political campaigns (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 15 added July 19, 1940, 54 Stat. 767).”

21. Civil Service Rule I provides in part:

“Persons who by the provisions of these rules are in the competitive classified service, while retaining the

right to vote as they please and to express their opinion on all political subjects, shall take no active part in political management or in political campaigns.”

22. The activities prohibited by the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, by the operation of Section 15 thereof, and prohibited by Civil Service Rule I are set out in the publication issued by defendants entitled “United [fol. 5] States Civil Service Commission Form 1236, September 1942, *Political Activity and Political Assessments of Federal Officeholders and Employees*”, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit I. Among the activities prohibited are those enumerated in paragraph 18 hereof.

23. The penalty for violation of the prohibition of the second sentence of Section 9 of the Hatch Act and Civil Service Rule I which is incorporated therein by Section 15 of the Hatch Act, is prescribed by the following provision of Section 9 of the Hatch Act:

“Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be immediately removed from the position or office held by him, and thereafter no part of the funds appropriated by any act of Congress for such position or office shall be used to pay the compensation of such person (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 9, 53 Stat. 1148, as amended July 19, 1940, 54 Stat. 767).”

24. Civil Service Rule XV provides:

“Legal appointment necessary to compensation. Whenever the Commission finds, after due notice and opportunity for explanation, that any person has been appointed to or is holding any position, whether by original appointment, promotion, assignment, transfer, or reinstatement, in violation of the Civil Service Act or rules, or of any Executive order or any regulation of the Commission, or that any employee subject thereto has violated such act, rules, orders, or regulations, it shall certify the facts to the proper appointing officer with specific instructions as to discipline or dismissal of the person or employee affected. If the appointing officer fails to carry out the instruction of the Commission within 10 days after receipt thereof, the Commission shall certify the facts to the proper disbursing and auditing officers, and such officers shall



make no payment or allowance of the salary or wages of any such person or employee thereafter accruing (Executive Order No. 8705, March 5, 1941).”

25. These pretended statutes and regulations purport to charge the United States Civil Service Commission with the duty of enforcing the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and Civil Service Rule I, which is incorporated into the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act by Section 15 thereof, and of causing the discharge of any member of the classified civil service who violates these provisions.

26. The individual defendants, Mitchell, McMillin, and Flemming, purporting to act as the United States Civil Service Commission, have in the past caused the removal of Federal employees in the classified civil service for violation of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, and Civil Service Rule I, incorporated therein by Section 15 of the Hatch Act, and threaten to cause removals for such violations in the future.

27. If individual plaintiffs above named engage in the activities specified in paragraph 18 hereof, the individual defendants have threatened to cause plaintiffs to be dismissed, and in the case of plaintiff Poole, the individual defendants have already commenced proceedings for his dismissal from the employ of the United States Government. By reason of the purported authority of the individual defendants, they are in a position to secure the actual dismissal of the individual plaintiffs from Federal service.

[fol. 6] 28. Such dismissal from Federal employment would constitute immediate irreparable injury.

29. If plaintiffs are dismissed from Federal employment for engaging in the activities specified in paragraph 18 hereof, they would not have available any adequate remedy at law.

30. There exists no other adequate remedy at law by which plaintiffs may presently protect the rights of which they are deprived by the provisions of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act.

31. The second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States as a

deprivation of freedom of speech, of the press, and of assembly in violation of the First Amendment.

32. The second sentence of section 9(a) of the Hatch Act is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States as a deprivation of the fundamental right of the people of the United States to engage in political activity, reserved to the people of the United States by the Ninth and Tenth Amendments.

33. The second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, since it unreasonably prohibits Federal employees from engaging in activities which may be lawfully carried on by persons who are not Federal employees, thus constituting a deprivation of liberty in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

34. The second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States since it effects an arbitrary and grossly unreasonable discrimination between employees of the Federal Government in the classified civil service subject to its provisions and employees specifically exempted therefrom, in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

35. The second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States since it is so vague and indefinite as to prohibit lawful activities as well as activities which are properly made unlawful by other provisions of law, in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

36. The acts of the individual defendants Mitchell, McMillin, and Flemming, in threatening to enforce the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, are unlawful, arbitrary, capricious, and without official authority, in violation of the hereinabove mentioned provisions of the Constitution of the United States and the rights of the plaintiffs guaranteed thereunder.

37. Unless the individual defendants are permanently enjoined from enforcing the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, plaintiffs will be unable to engage in the activities specified in paragraph 18 above, except by incurring the penalty of removal from employment. The individual plaintiffs are thus now deterred from exercising their lawful right to engage in political activity, and plain-

tiff UFWA is unable to effectuate fully its legislative program. In addition, unless the defendants are enjoined from enforcing the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, plaintiffs will be deterred from exercising their lawful right to engage in political activity in connection with the forthcoming election of electors for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States, and of members of Congress; an election in which vital issues relating to the conduct of the war, the cost of living, and the rights of organized and unorganized workers will be presented. In the premise, plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury for which they have no adequate remedy at law.

Wherefore, plaintiffs pray that the court grant a preliminary and permanent injunction enjoining defendants from enforcing the provisions of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, and render a declaratory judgment that it is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, and that the court grant the plaintiffs such other and further relief as may be just and equitable in the premise.

Lee Pressman, Attorney for Plaintiffs, 718 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D.C.

*Duly sworn to by Joseph D. Phillips. Jurat omitted in printing.*

[fol. 39] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

ORDER DESIGNATING THREE-JUDGE STATUTORY COURT—Filed  
May 8, 1944

Upon request of Judge James W. Morris, of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, before whom there is pending in the above entitled cause a complaint filed by plaintiffs for an injunction to restrain enforcement of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act of August 2, 1939, as amended, Title 18 U. S. C. Section 61h(a), and for a judgment declaring that it is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, and a motion filed by plaintiffs for an interlocutory injunction to restrain enforcement of the aforesaid second sentence of

Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act pending final determination of the above entitled cause and notice of the filing of this action and motion for interlocutory injunction having been given to the Attorney General, I hereby designate Judge Jennings Bailey and Judge James W. Morris, of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, to participate with me, presiding judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, as a three-judge statutory court to hear and determine these matters.

Dated: May 8, 1944.

D. Lawrence Groner, Chief Justice of United States  
Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and  
Senior Circuit Judge.

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[fol. 40] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

MOTION FOR INTERLOCUTORY INJUNCTION—Filed April 25,  
1944

Upon the annexed verified complaint and upon the affidavits of Patrick T. Fagan, Harry V. Winegar, Jack M. Elkin, Rudolph Hindin, George P. Poole, Olivia Israeli Abelson, Joseph D. Phillips, Charles G. Shane, Albert J. Rieck, L. E. Tempest, and Margery Mitchell, plaintiffs move the Court to issue an interlocutory injunction, restraining defendants, or any persons authorized by them or acting on their behalf, from enforcing the provisions of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act of August 2, 1939, as amended, Title 18 U. S. C. Section 61h (a) against the individual plaintiffs herein and the members of plaintiff United Federal Workers of America (C. I. O.) on whose behalf it brings the above entitled action, pending the final hearing and determination of this cause.

The grounds of this motion, as more fully set forth in the annexed Complaint and in the annexed affidavits of the above named individuals, are that:

a. The second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States in that it deprives the individual plaintiffs in the above-entitled cause, and those members of the United Federal

Workers of America (C. I. O.) who are within the classified civil service and not otherwise exempt from the prohibitions of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act, of their freedom of speech, of the press and of assembly, in violation of the First Amendment; it deprives them of the fundamental right to engage in political activity reserved to the people by the Ninth and Tenth Amendments; and it deprives them of liberty without due process of law in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

b. The defendants, unless enjoined, threaten to enforce the provisions of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act.

c. The enforcement of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act will cause immediate and irreparable injury to the individual plaintiffs herein and those members [fol. 41] of the United Federal Workers of America (C. I. O.) on whose behalf it brings the above entitled action.

d. Unless the enforcement of the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act be restrained pending final disposition of the action, the injury to the individual plaintiffs herein and the members of United Federal Workers of America (C. I. O.), subject to its provisions, will be irreparable, even by final judgment for plaintiffs.

e. No injury will be sustained by the defendants or by the public through issuance of an interlocutory injunction.

(Signed) Lee Pressman, Attorney for Plaintiffs.

[fol. 42] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF RICHARD WEBER—Filed April 25,  
1944

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
County of Philadelphia, ss:

I, Richard Weber, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 3783 Pennypack Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by the Frankford Branch of the United States War Department as machinist specialist. I have

been employed by the U. S. Government since November 1939. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

[fol. 43] I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells", by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will [fol. 44] be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

Richard Weber.

Signed and subscribed to before Nathan E. Rowland,  
Notary Public. My Commission Expires Feb. 19,  
1945.

[fol. 45] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF GEORGE P. POOLE—Filed April 25,  
1944

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
County of Philadelphia, ss:

I, George P. Poole, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 2413 No. Bouvier St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by the United States Mint at Philadelphia as a Roller. I have been employed at the Mint since August 1940. My present position is within the classified civil service.

I have for a long time been interested in political activities. Both before and since my employment in the United States Mint, I have taken an active part in political campaigns and political management. In the 28th Ward, 7th Division in the City of Philadelphia I am and have been a Ward Executive Committeeman. In that position I have on many occasions taken an active part in political management and political campaigns. I have visited the residents of my Ward and solicited them to support my party and its candidates; I have acted as a watcher at the polls; I have contributed money to help pay its expenses; I have circulated campaign literature, placed banners and posters in public places, distributed leaflets, assisted in organizing political rallies and assemblies, and have done any and all acts which were asked of me in my capacity as a Ward Executive Committeeman. I have engaged in these activities both before and after my employment in the United States Mint. I intend to continue to engage in these activities on my own time as a private citizen, openly, freely, and without concealment.

However, I have been served with a proposed order of the United States Civil Service Commission, dated January 12, 1944, which advises me that because of the political activities mentioned above, and for no other reason, "it is, \* \* \*, the opinion of this Commission that George P. Poole, an employee of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has been guilty of political activity in violation of Section I, Civil Service Rule I" and that unless

I can refute the charges that I have engaged in political activity, I will be dismissed from my position as a Roller in the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

I do not wish to, and will not deny my political activity and I propose to continue to engage in such activity since it is to me the most important activity in which any citizen can engage. I believe that neither the Civil Service Commission nor the Congress has the constitutional power to prohibit me from engaging in these political activities or to punish me for engaging in them by dismissing me from my federal job. Loss of my federal position would result in immediate and serious financial loss to me. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law against me, that [fol. 47] Commission has threatened to take away the means of my livelihood solely because I have exercised my constitutional rights as a citizen.

George P. Poole.

Signed and subscribed to before Eugene J. Hagerty,  
Notary Public. My commission expires April 6,  
1947.

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[fol. 48] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF JACK M. ELKIN—Filed April 25,  
1944

[fol. 49] I, Jack M. Elkin, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 541 Roscoe Street, Chicago 13, Illinois. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by the Railroad Retirement Board as Senior Economic Statistician. I have been employed by the U. S. Government since May 1934. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions



it is my earest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners [fol. 50] and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells", by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

Signed Jack M. Elkin.

Signed and subscribed to before Agnes M. Johnson,  
Notary Public. My commission expires: Feb. 15,  
1944.

[fol. 51] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF CHARLES G. SHANE—Filed April  
25, 1944

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
County of Philadelphia, ss:

I, Charles G. Shane, being duly sworn, depose and say:  
I live at 1918 Briggs Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker  
employed by the Frankford Arsenal of the U. S. War De-  
partment as a Lens Grinder, Senior. I have been em-  
ployed at the Frankford Arsenal since August 1940. My  
present position is within the classified civil service, and  
I have been in the classified civil service since 1919.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the  
balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation  
for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the  
vital political decisions on which the success of the war  
and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely de-  
pend. For the purpose of participating in the making of  
these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively  
in political management and political campaigns. I wish  
to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private  
citizen.

[fol. 52] I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of  
those candidates for public office who I believe will best  
serve the needs of this country and with the object of per-  
suading others of the correctness of my judgments and  
of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I  
wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in dis-  
cussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other as-  
semblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles  
for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by  
aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by  
posting banners and posters in public places, by distribut-  
ing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells", by addressing cam-  
paign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like  
character reasonably designed to assist in the election of  
candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and  
without concealment. However, I understand that the sec-

ond sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C.S.C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

At the last Congressional election I was very much interested in the outcome of the campaign and offered to help the party of my choice by being a watcher at the polls. I obtained a watcher's certificate but I was advised that there might be some question of my right to use the certificate and retain my federal employment. Therefore, on November 1, 1943, the day before election, I called the regional office of the Civil Service Commission in Philadelphia and spoke to a person who gave his name as Harold Dunlap. [fol. 53] Mr. Dunlap stated that if I used my watcher's certificate, the Civil Service Commission would see that I was dismissed from my job at the Frankford Arsenal for violation of the Hatch Act. I, therefore, did not use the certificate as I had intended.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise by rights as a citizen.

Charles G. Shane.

Signed and subscribed to before 1-25-44. Edward  
B. Buckey, Notary Public.

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[fol. 54] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF L. E. TEMPEST—Filed Apr. 25, 1944

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

County of Philadelphia, ss:

I, L. E. Tempest, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 2531 North 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by the Philadelphia Navy Yard as electric welder. I have been employed by the U. S. Govern-

ment since March 6, 1940. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

[fol. 55] I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells," by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

L. E. Tempest.

Signed and subscribed to before Jan. 26/44. Alex Burchulz, Notary Public. My Commission Ex. 3-9-47.

[fol. 56] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES  
AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF HARRY V. WINEGAR—Filed April 25,  
1944

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

City and County of San Francisco, ss:

I, Harry V. Winegar, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 1750 Beach Street, San Francisco, State of California. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by United States Department of Justice, Prison Bureau, Alcatraz as Senior Officer. I have been employed by the United States Government since February 1, 1938 and I started working for the United States Department of Justice, Prison Bureau, Alcatraz on February 1, 1938. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At the time, when the fate of the entire world is in balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing [fol. 57] the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells," by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designated to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the

Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

Harry V. Winegar.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18 day of February 1944. Clara E. Hay, Notary Public in and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California. My Commission Expires April 17, 1944.

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[fol. 58] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF JOSEPH D. PHILLIPS—Filed April 25, 1944

[fol. 59] I, Joseph D. Phillips, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 1453 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by War Shipping Administration as Labor Economist. I have been employed by the U. S. Government since August 16, 1941. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the

needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells," by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

[fol. 60] I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

Joseph D. Phillips.

Signed and subscribed to before me this 7th day of  
February A. D. 1944. Robert S. Bains, Notary  
Public, D. C. My commission expires Feb. 14, 1945.

[fol. 61] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF ALBERT J. RIECK—Filed April 25,  
1944

[fol. 62] STATE OF WISCONSIN,  
County of Milwaukee, ss:

I, Albert J. Rieck, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

I live at 2136A N. 62nd St., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker, employed by the Veterans Administration at Wood, Wisconsin, as a stock clerk. I have been employed by the U. S. Government since approximately January 20, 1933. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and [fol. 63] posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells", by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freeley, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the sec-



ond sentence of Section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

(Signed) Albert J. Rieck.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 2d day of February, 1944. A. R. Freeman, Notary Public, Milwaukee County, Wis. My commission expires 10-21-45.

[fol. 64] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF OLIVIA ISRAELI ABELSON—Filed  
April 25, 1944

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss:

I, Olivia Israeli Abelson, being duly sworn, depose and say: I live at 138 Lynhaven Drive, Alexandria, Virginia. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by the Social Security Board of the Federal Security Agency as an Associate Financial Analyst (Grade P-3). I have been employed by the U. S. Government since October 1935. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions, it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of [fol. 65] candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells", by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

(Signed) Olivia Israeli Abelson.

Signed and subscribed to before — this seventh day of February, 1944. Edmund M. O'Sullivan, Notary Public, D. C.

[fol. 66] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF MARGERY MITCHELL—Filed April 25,  
1944

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
City and County of San Francisco, ss:

I, Margery Mitchell, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 1309 Montgomery Street, San Francisco 4, State of California. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by National War Labor Board as Wage analyst. I have been employed by the United States Government since April 1941 and I started working for the National War Labor Board on December 8, 1942. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At the time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells," by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designated to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the

Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

Margery Mitchell.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4 day of February, 1944. Clara E. Hay, Notary Public in and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California. My Commission Expires April 17, 1944.

[fol. 68] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF RUDOLPH HINDIN—Filed April 25,  
1944

STATE OF TENNESSEE,  
County of Shelby, ss:

[fol. 69] I, Rudolph Hindin, being duly sworn, depose and say:

I live at 4001 Barrington Road, Baltimore, Maryland. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal worker employed by Federal Security as Procedural Assistant. I have been employed by the U. S. Government since June, 1935. My present position is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by [fol. 70] "ringing doorbells," by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9(a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C. S. C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this constitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

(Signed) Rudolph Hindin.

Signed and subscribed to before Michael M. Jablin,  
Notary Public. My commission expires Oct. 5,  
1947.

[fol. 71] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF PATRICK T. FAGAN—Filed April 25,  
1944

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
County of Allegheny, ss:

[fol. 72] I, Patrick T. Fagan, being duly sworn, depose  
Name

and say:

I live at 822 Woodbourne Avenue, Brookline, Pittsburgh,  
Full address including city and state

Pa. I am a citizen of the United States and a federal  
worker employed by War Manpower Commission as  
Name of Agency

Area Director Area IX. I have been employed by the  
Title of Position

U. S. Government since May 5, 1943. My present position  
Date

is within the classified civil service.

At this time, when the fate of the entire world is in the balance, I believe it is not only proper but an obligation for all citizens to participate actively in the making of the vital political decisions on which the success of the war and the permanence of the peace to follow so largely depend. For the purpose of participating in the making of these decisions it is my earnest desire to engage actively in political management and political campaigns. I wish to engage in such activity upon my own time, as a private citizen.

I wish to engage in such activities on behalf of those candidates for public office who I believe will best serve the needs of this country and with the object of persuading others of the correctness of my judgments and of electing the candidates of my choice. This objective I wish to pursue by all proper means such as engaging in discussion, by speeches to conventions, rallies and other assemblages, by publicizing my views in letters and articles for publication in newspapers and other periodicals, by aiding in the campaign of candidates for political office by posting banners and posters in public places, by distributing leaflets, by "ringing doorbells", by addressing campaign literature, and by doing any and all acts of like character reasonably

[fol. 73] designed to assist in the election of candidates I favor.

I desire to engage in these activities freely, openly, and without concealment. However, I understand that the second sentence of Section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act and the Rules of the C.S.C. provide that if I engage in this activity, the Civil Service Commission will order that I be dismissed from federal employment. Such deprivation of my job in the federal government would be a source of immediate and serious financial loss and other injury to me.

I believe that Congress may not constitutionally abridge my right to engage in the political activities mentioned above. However, unless the courts prevent the Civil Service Commission from enforcing this unconstitutional law, I will be unable freely to exercise my rights as a citizen.

Signed Patrick T. Fagan.

Signed and subscribed to before Edward G. Nassar,  
Notary Public. My Commission expires March  
17, 1947. (Seal.)

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[fol. 74] IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

[Title omitted]

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND MOTIONS TO DISMISS AND FOR  
SUMMARY JUDGMENT—Filed June 26, 1944

Please take notice that upon the pleadings herein, upon the affidavits submitted by plaintiffs in support of their motion heretofore made for an interlocutory injunction, upon the affidavit of Lawson A. Moyer, verified the 24th day of June 1944, and upon all the proceedings heretofore had herein, the defendants will move this Court at a special term thereof, on the 29th day of June 1944, on the opening of court on that day or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard (1) for a motion to dismiss the complaint herein on the ground that it fails to state a claim or controversy against these defendants upon which relief can be granted and on the ground that the court lacks jurisdiction thereof, and (2) for a motion for summary judgment in favor of the defendants on the ground that there are no genuine issues as to any material fact and defendants are entitled to such judgment as a matter of law, and on the ground

that the court lacks jurisdiction to grant the relief requested by the plaintiffs; and for such other and further relief as to the court may seem just and proper.

Francis M. Shea, Assistant Attorney General; Edward M. Curran, United States Attorney, Attorneys for the Defendants.

To: Lee Pressman, Esq., 718 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C., Attorneys for the Plaintiffs.

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[fol. 75] IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

[Title omitted]

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF MOTIONS—Filed June 26, 1944

CITY OF WASHINGTON,  
District of Columbia, ss:

LAWSON A. MOYER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I am the Executive Director and Chief Examiner of the United States Civil Service Commission, the members of which are the defendants in the above-entitled action. This affidavit is submitted in support of motions made by said defendants to dismiss the action and for summary judgment.

I am advised that the action is brought to enjoin the Civil Service Commission from enforcing Section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act. I am personally familiar with all the procedures utilized by the Civil Service Commission in the performance of its duties. Except with respect to its own employees, the Civil Service Commission is not authorized to, and does not, enforce the provisions of Section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act. The Civil Service Commission does enforce the provisions of Civil Service Rule I by the method set forth in [fol. 76] Rule XV of the Rules of the Civil Service Commission as to Federal employees in the competitive classified service.

The established procedure for the enforcement of Civil Service Rule I is as follows:

When there is a charge of political activity on the part of a classified Federal employee, an investigation is made, generally jointly by the representatives of the Civil Service Commission and the department or agency employing the individual in question. During this investigation the



individual is afforded an opportunity to be heard. The report of this investigation is submitted to the Civil Service Commission and if the Commission reaches the preliminary conclusion that a violation of Civil Service Rule I has been established, it issues a proposed order containing a complete statement of the charges against the employee and the evidence substantiating such charges. The employee is given an opportunity within 15 days, or such further time as may be allowed, to respond to such charges and present any evidence to rebut such charges, and to request a hearing before the Commission or its Examiner. At such hearing, the employee may be represented by counsel, and may request the filing of briefs. Upon the conclusion of the hearing the Commission, after due consideration of the entire record of the case, issues a final order. In event the charges are sustained, a copy of such order, in accordance with Rule XV, is sent to the department or agency in which the individual is employed, advising that such individual has been found to have violated Civil Service Rule I, and recommending that said employee be removed. In the event the head of the particular department or agency fails to remove said employee, the Civil Service Commission, [fol. 77] pursuant to Rule XV, instructs the proper disbursing officer to withhold payment of any salary or wages thereafter accruing to such employee.

I have caused an examination to be made of the files and records of the Civil Service Commission with reference to whether any proceedings have been instituted or any disciplinary action has been taken against any of the individual plaintiffs named in the above-entitled action. With the exception of plaintiff George P. Poole, such records disclose that no proceedings of any kind have been instituted against said plaintiffs and no disciplinary action of any kind has been taken against any of them. With reference to plaintiff George P. Poole, the records of the Civil Service Commission disclose that an investigation has been conducted jointly by the Civil Service Commission and by the Treasury Department with respect to alleged political activities engaged in by the said George P. Poole. As a result of such investigation, a proposed order was issued on January 12, 1944. A copy of this proposed order is annexed hereto as Exhibit A. This proposed order setting forth the preliminary finding of the Civil Service Commission was transmitted to plaintiff George P. Poole at 2413 North

Bouvier Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by registered mail on January 17, 1944 and said plaintiff George P. Poole was advised that he had 15 days within which to reply to the charges and to present any evidence he might have to refute them.

Thereafter, on March 2, 1944, one Lewis F. McCabe, as attorney for George P. Poole, requested, on behalf of said plaintiff George P. Poole, an extension of time within which to file an answer to the said proposed order. This request was considered by the United States Civil Service Commission [fol. 78] and on the date of March 28, 1944, over my signature and by direction of the Commission, a letter was sent to Lewis F. McCabe, attorney, advising him that the Commission had decided that it would continue to accept any answer that may be filed by him in the case of George P. Poole. To date, no answer to the charges set forth in the proposed order, has been filed by either George P. Poole, individually, or by his attorney, Lewis F. McCabe, nor has any request for a hearing been made. The case of George P. Poole is still pending and the Commission, at the present time, is ready, as it has advised said Lewis F. McCabe, to accept and consider any answer and request for hearing which may be filed on behalf of George P. Poole. No final order has been issued with respect to said plaintiff George P. Poole.

I am advised that the plaintiffs have annexed to their complaint a copy of a pamphlet issued by the Civil Service Commission dealing with the rules and regulations affecting the political activities and political assessments of federal employees. A new pamphlet was issued in January 1944 which is now in effect and this pamphlet is annexed hereto as Exhibit B.

I am also annexing to this affidavit, as Exhibit C, a copy of the Civil Service Commission Rules dated September 1939, which contains on pages 5 through 9, certain provisions regarding political activities by federal employees. I am advised and believe that some of these provisions were included by reference in the second Hatch Act.

Lawson A. Moyer.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of June 1944. R. E. Soneder, Notary Public of District of Columbia. My commission expires Jan. 14, 1946.

[fol. 79]                    EXHIBIT "A" TO AFFIDAVIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE UNITED STATES  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Proposed Order Federal Docket No. 1101

In the Matter of GEORGE P. POOLE, Roller, United States  
Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The United States Civil Service Commission, being in receipt of a report of investigation jointly conducted by representatives of the Commission and the Treasury Department of alleged political activity on the part of George P. Poole, Roller, United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and having carefully considered the same, adopts the following Proposed Order:

I

It is charged:

That on or about August 6, 1940 the said George P. Poole was employed in the position of Roller, United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a position in the classified civil service of the United States. That by virtue of the said employment, the said George G. Poole was subject to the provisions of Section 1, Civil Service Rule I, prohibiting political activity and while so employed did take an active part in political campaigns and political management, in that,

The said George P. Poole held the political party office of Democratic Ward Executive Committeeman in the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The said George P. Poole was politically active by aiding and assisting the Democratic Party in the capacity of worker at the polls on general election day, November 5, 1940, and assisted in the distribution of funds in paying party workers for their services on general election day, November 5, 1940.

[fol. 80]

II

The above charges are substantiated by:

a. Admissions of the said George P. Poole and records in the office of the Philadelphia Board of Elections that the

said George P. Poole was elected Democratic Ward Executive Committeeman in the years 1934, 1936, 1938 and 1940.

b. The employment records in the United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania which reveal that the said George P. Poole has been an employee of the Mint in various capacities and at periodic times since May 2, 1935.

c. The leave records at the United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania which reveal that the said George P. Poole was on leave from duty at the Mint on general election day, November 5, 1940.

d. Records in the office of the Philadelphia Board of Elections which reveal that a Democratic Watcher's Certificate was issued in the name of George P. Poole for use at the polling place on registration day, October 1, 1940, in the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

e. Records in the office of the Philadelphia Board of Elections which reveal that the said George P. Poole became a candidate for Democratic Ward Executive Committeeman for the 28th Ward, 7th Division and was elected thereto on April 23, 1940 for a two-year term.

f. Records in the office of the Philadelphia Board of Elections which reveal that the said George P. Poole was paid the sum of \$9.00 for his services as worker in the election of November 5, 1940.

g. Admissions of the said George P. Poole that he was active at the polls on general election day, November 5, 1940, and that he advanced the sum of \$25.00 to a committeeman to pay party workers in his Division.

h. Admissions of the said George P. Poole and the statement of witnesses that the said George P. Poole was the recognized Democratic Ward Executive Committeeman for the 28th Ward, 7th Division, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania during said term of office to which he was elected on April 23, 1940. The said George P. Poole at his personal [fol. 81] interview admitted that he was Democratic Ward Executive Committeeman and that he was active at the polls on November 5, 1940 but denied that he served as a watcher on registration day, October 1, 1940.

## III

The above described activity constitutes taking an active part in political management and in a political campaign in contravention of Section 1, Civil Service Rule I, and the regulations adopted by the Commissioners thereunder.

## IV

It is, therefore, the opinion of this Commission that George P. Poole, employee of the United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has been guilty of political activity in violation of Section 1, Civil Service Rule I, and it is *Ordered* that George P. Poole be so notified and that in accordance with the procedure established in such cases he be allowed fifteen days from the date of receipt of said notification in which to reply to these charges and to present any additional evidence he may have to refute them.

The United States Civil Service Commission. Alfred Klein, Acting Chief Law Officer.

Approved at Washington, D. C. this 12th day of January, 1944.

FORM 1234  
January 1944

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND  
POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS  
OF FEDERAL OFFICEHOLDERS  
AND EMPLOYEES



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## POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS OF FEDERAL OFFICEHOLDERS AND EMPLOYEES

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### I. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

1. Civil-service rule I and the act of August 2, 1939 (as amended)—Civil-service rule I, section 1, reads as follows:

No person in the executive civil service shall use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the results thereof. Persons who by the provisions of these rules are in the competitive classified service, while retaining the right to vote as they please and to express their opinions on all political subjects, shall take no active part in political management or in political campaigns.

The act of August 2, 1939, as amended (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61), provides in part as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any person employed in any administrative position by the United States, or by any department, independent agency, or other agency of the United States (including any corporation controlled by the United States or any agency thereof, and any corporation all of the capital stock of which is owned by the United States or any agency thereof) \* \* \*, to use his official authority for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the election or the nomination of any candidate for the Office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, or Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and insular possessions (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 2, 53 Stat. 1147, as amended July 19, 1940, 54 Stat. 767).<sup>1</sup>

It shall be unlawful for any person employed in the executive branch of the Federal Government, or any agency or department thereof, to use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the result thereof. No officer or employee in the executive branch of the Federal Government, or any agency or department thereof, except a part-time officer or part-time employee without compensation or with nominal compensation serving in connection with the existing war effort, other than in any capacity relating to the procurement or manufacture of war material,<sup>2</sup> shall take any active part in political management or in political campaigns. All such persons shall retain the right to vote as they may choose and to express their opinions on all political subjects and candidates. For the purposes of this section the term "officer" or "employee" shall not be construed to include (1) the President and Vice President

<sup>1</sup> Penalty for violation of this section is a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 8, 53 Stat. 1148).

<sup>2</sup> Title VII, Public Law 507, 77th Cong., approved March 27, 1942.

of the United States; (2) persons whose compensation is paid from the appropriation for the office of the President; (3) heads and assistant heads of executive departments; (4) officers who are appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who determine policies to be pursued by the United States in its relations with foreign powers or in the Nation-wide administration of Federal laws.

Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be immediately removed from the position or office held by him, and thereafter no part of the funds appropriated by any act of Congress for such position or office shall be used to pay the compensation of such person (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 9, 53 Stat. 1148, as amended July 19, 1940, 54 Stat. 767).

For the purposes of this Act, persons employed in the government of the District of Columbia shall be deemed to be employed in the executive branch of the Government of the United States, except that for the purposes of the second sentence of section 9 (a) the Commissioners and the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia shall not be deemed to be officers or employees (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 14 added July 19, 1940, 54 Stat. 767).

The provisions of this Act which prohibit persons to whom such provisions apply from taking any active part in political management or in political campaigns shall be deemed to prohibit the same activities on the part of such persons as the United States Civil Service Commission has heretofore determined are at the time this section takes effect prohibited on the part of employees in the classified civil service of the United States by the provisions of the civil-service rules prohibiting such employees from taking any active part in political management or in political campaigns (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 15 added July 19, 1940, 54 Stat. 767).

Nothing in sections 2, 9 (a) or 9 (b), or 12 of this Act shall be deemed to prohibit or to make unlawful the doing of any act by any officer or employee of any educational or research institution, establishment, agency, or system which is supported in whole or in part by any State or political subdivision thereof, or by the District of Columbia or by any Territory or Territorial possession of the United States; or by any recognized religious, philanthropic, or cultural organization (act of August 2, 1939, sec. 21 added October 24, 1942, Public Law 754, 77th Cong.).

The rule and the statutes quoted above are general prohibitions against participation in politics by officers and employees of the Government. All officers and employees of the Government are, in addition, subject to a number of statutes relating to solicitation of political contributions, political coercion, political discrimination, and the purchase and sale of public office, which are set forth in sections of this publication.

Every Government employee is expected to be familiar with the statutes and the rules relating to political activity; ignorance does not excuse their violation. Each appointee to the classified service on entering on duty is required to sign a statement that he will familiarize himself with the rule and the laws relating to political activity.

## II. JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION

2. **Federal employees.**—There is no language in the Hatch Act fixing responsibility for enforcement as to Federal employees. Thus, enforcement of section 9 as to these employees devolves upon the individual departments and independent establishments. However, it is important to note that civil-service rule I, which uses prohibitive language identical with that in the Hatch Act, is still in full force and effect as to employees in the competitive classified service. Indeed, subsequent to the passage of the Hatch Act this rule has been amended to conform with prohibitive language in section 9 of the Hatch Act, by Executive Order No. 8705, March 5, 1941, and promulgated anew. Thus, the Commission has jurisdiction to enforce the political-activity restrictions of the rule, and this jurisdiction, under an opinion of the Attorney General of the United States dated January 8, 1941, is concurrent with the statutory responsibility of the individual employing departments and independent establishments as to employees in the competitive classified service.

Prior to the passage of the Hatch Act, the Commission had authority to impose penalties for violations of the rule ranging from a reprimand or suspension to removal. The Attorney General held in the opinion referred to above that in cases where both the law and the civil service rule were violated the statutory penalty, which is removal from the service, is mandatory. The law definitely states with respect to Federal employees that a person found to have committed a violation must be immediately removed from the position or office held by him and must not be reemployed in such position or office (sec. 9 (b)).

Civil-service rule XV reads as follows:

*Legal appointment necessary to compensation.*—Whenever the Commission finds, after due notice and opportunity for explanation, that any person has been appointed to or is holding any position, whether by original appointment, promotion, assignment, transfer, or reinstatement, in violation of the Civil Service Act or rules, or of any Executive order or any regulation of the Commission, or that any employee subject thereto has violated such act, rules, orders, or regulations, it shall certify the facts to the proper appointing officer with specific instructions as to discipline or dismissal of the person or employee affected. If the appointing officer fails to carry out the instruction of the Commission within 10 days after receipt thereof, the Commission shall certify the facts to the proper disbursing and auditing officers, and such officers shall make no payment or allowance of the salary or wages of any such person or employee thereafter accruing (Executive Order No. 8705, March 5, 1941).

The General Accounting Office is without jurisdiction to review the determinations of the Civil Service Commission under rule XV and, upon certification by the Commission that an employee is holding a position in violation of the Civil Service Act and rules, the General Accounting Office has no alternative to withholding credit for payments made for salary or compensation (decision, Comptroller General, July 20, 1939, to the Postmaster General).

With respect to employees in nonclassified or excepted positions, the jurisdiction to determine whether or not there has been a violation of the Hatch Act is vested in the head of the department or independent establishment concerned with making the removal (opinion, Attorney General, July 22, 1940). However, this jurisdiction is limited by section 15 of the act to a determination of facts. Thus, the head of the department or independent establishment may decide whether or not an employee under his jurisdiction did in fact engage in certain activities. However, the question of whether such activities constitute a violation would, under the act, be determined by application of section 15, which provides that those activities are to be considered as in violation of the act which the Commission had theretofore determined were in violation of the civil-service rules prohibiting political activity.

**3. Civil Service Commission regulations.**—In taking action on alleged violations of section 1 of civil-service rule I, the Civil Service Commission proceeds under the following regulations:

(1) **Investigations.**—(a) Investigations of charges of political activity on the part of an officer or employee (both hereinafter comprehended within the term "employee") subject to the provisions of section 1, civil-service rule I, shall be conducted jointly by representatives of the Commission and of the department or agency where the individual is employed, unless either the Commission or the department or agency signifies that it will be unable to participate in the investigation. The Commission shall be notified of any complaint of political activity received by a department or agency and shall be given an opportunity to cooperate in any investigation that the department or agency may decide to make. Likewise, the Commission will not proceed with any investigation until the department or agency has been notified and has been given an opportunity to participate.

(b) During the course of the investigation the employee shall be afforded an opportunity to make a statement, either personally or in writing, before the investigator, and he shall be allowed to furnish names of witnesses who will support the statements he has made to the investigator.

(2) **Proposed order.**—When the Commission reaches the conclusion that a violation of section 1, civil-service rule I, has been established by the investigation, it shall issue a proposed order. This order, which shall include a statement of the charges against the employee and of the information in support thereof, shall be sent to the employee by registered mail, and he shall be allowed fifteen days from the date of service to respond thereto in writing. A copy of this order shall also be sent to the department or agency in which the individual is employed. With his reply to the proposed order, the employee may request a hearing as hereinafter provided.

(3) **Hearing.**—(a) The granting of a hearing shall not be a matter of right but shall be within the discretion of the Commission. No hearing shall be authorized in cases where the employee has admitted a violation or where a violation is established by indisputable record evidence.

(b) Hearings shall be held before a Hearing Examiner designated by the Commission and shall be at the Commission's office in Washington, D. C., unless the Commission shall order that the hearing be held elsewhere. All testimony shall

be under oath or affirmation. The employee may appear personally or by or with counsel. Counsel appearing shall have been admitted to practice before the Commission in accordance with rule 4 of the Rules of Practice under the act of August 2, 1939, as amended.

(c) The hearing shall be of the limited scope necessitated by the Commission's lack of the power of subpoena in proceedings under section 1, civil-service rule I. Because of the absence of that authority, it cannot undertake to conduct said hearing as a proceeding de novo, or to have evidence introduced therein in support of the charges against the respondent. Owing to the lack of subpoena power, evidence in support of charges must be limited to information given voluntarily. Such information is obtained upon an understanding of confidential treatment. Consequently, evidence supporting the charges cannot be introduced at the hearing. The hearing shall be unilateral, that is, it shall be only for the presentation of evidence on behalf of the employee in rebuttal of the charges disclosed by the proposed order. Counsel for the Commission may cross-examine witnesses.

(d) It shall be within the discretion of the Hearing Examiner to permit, and fix the time for, filing of briefs. The proceeding at the hearing will not be reported, unless the Commission shall so direct; but the employee shall have the privilege of himself having the evidence taken stenographically. If the proceeding is not taken by a reporter on behalf of the Commission, the employee and Commission counsel shall submit a summary thereof to the Hearing Examiner within a time fixed by him. Any disagreement concerning the contents of the summary shall be resolved by the Examiner, and the parties may file written exceptions. The summary and any exceptions shall be certified by the Hearing Examiner and shall become a part of the record.

(4) Final order.—(a) The Commission's final order shall be based on the entire record of the case, including the report of the investigation, the reply of the employee to the proposed order and in cases where a hearing has been granted, the report of the Hearing Examiner. If the employee does not reply to the proposed order within fifteen days from the date of service, a final order shall be based on the report of investigation alone.

(b) The final order shall contain a statement of the charges that have been substantiated and shall prescribe the penalty to be imposed. It shall be served on the department or agency wherein the individual is employed, together with a copy to be forwarded to the respondent.

(5) Penalties.—(a) Since violations of section 1, civil-service rule I, are by law violations also of section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act, the penalty required by that act must of necessity be imposed. The employee must be immediately removed from the position or office held and may not again be employed in such position or office. If the appointing officer fails to carry out the instructions of the Commission within ten days after receipt thereof, the Commission shall certify the facts to the proper disbursing and auditing officer for proceedings in accordance with civil-service rule XV.

(b) When the Commission recommends the removal of an employee for a violation of section 1, civil-service rule I, and the Hatch Act, the penalty laid down in paragraph (a) of this section shall be applied, even where the department or agency reports that the individual has been removed, on grounds other than a violation of section 1, civil-service rule I, and the Hatch Act, and the individual may not again be employed in the position from which he was removed. The

provisions of section 6 of these regulations regarding reinstatement in positions other than the one from which removal was effected shall also apply.

(e) The above procedure shall apply also where an employee has resigned from his position or office prior to the Commission's determination that he had violated section 1, civil-service rule I, and the Hatch Act.

(6) **Reinstatement.**—An employee removed for violation of section 1, civil-service rule I, may be reinstated, in accordance with the provisions of civil-service rule IX, in any position for which he can qualify other than the one from which he was removed: *Provided*, That the Commission shall in each case establish a period of time after removal, the length of which shall vary with the circumstances of the particular case, during which the reinstatement of the officer or employee to any position in the Federal service will not be approved.

### III. APPLICABILITY OF THE RULE AND STATUTE

4. **In general.**—For many years employees in the competitive classified service have been prohibited from taking an active part in politics by civil-service rule I. In addition to this rule, such employees are now subject to the restrictions of the act of August 2, 1939. This is true regardless of whether the classified status was acquired through competitive examination, classification by statute, or classification by Executive order.

Only the first sentence of section 1, civil-service rule I, applies to employees in positions excepted from the competitive classified service. This sentence has been partially enacted in section 2 of the act of August 2, 1939, and violation of this provision of the statute constitutes a criminal offense.

Under section 9 (a) of the act of August 2, 1939, all persons employed in the executive branch of the Federal Government<sup>\*</sup> whether or not such persons are in the classified service, are prohibited from using their official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the results thereof, and from taking an active part in political management or in political campaigns. It should be noted that by the terms of title VII of Public Law 507, 77th Cong. (Second War Powers Act, approved March 27, 1942), the restriction against taking any active part in political management or political campaigns does not apply in the case of "a part-time officer or part-time employee without compensation or with nominal compensation serving in connection with the existing war effort, other than in any capacity relating to the procurement or manufacture of war material." However, such employees are subject to the restriction which prohibits the use of official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the results thereof.

The Hatch Act expressly reserves to Government employees the right to vote and the right to express their opinions on all political

<sup>\*</sup> Except (a) the President and Vice President of the United States; (b) persons whose compensation is paid from the appropriation for the office of the President; (c) heads and assistant heads of executive departments; (d) officers who are appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who determine policies to be pursued by the United States in its relations with foreign powers or in the Nation-wide administration of Federal laws.

subjects and candidates. This expression of opinion may be made publicly,<sup>4</sup> but it must not be such as to amount to taking an active part in an organized political campaign. The effect of section 9 (a) of the statute, therefore, is to place the same restrictions upon the political activities of all officers and employees of the executive branch of the Government, as section 1 of civil-service rule I places upon the political activities of employees in the classified service. Moreover, section 15 of the act expressly provides that the activities which are prohibited by the act are the activities which the Commission had theretofore determined were prohibited on the part of employees in the classified civil service by the provisions of the civil-service rules forbidding the taking of an active part in political management or in political campaigns.

5. **Substitute or part-time employees.**—Persons whose employment with the Federal Government is only part-time, or intermittent, not in any case occupying a substantial portion of the individual's time and not affording the employee's principal means of livelihood, are subject to the law while in an active-duty status, not otherwise. Under such conditions employees may hold public elective office or be listed as candidates for such office provided that they do not engage in political activity or political management during periods of active duty. The period of active duty embraces the whole period of status as a paid employee, rather than just the working hours of the day.

6. **Employees on leave.**—It is not permissible for an employee to take leave of absence for the purpose of working for a political committee or organization or of becoming a candidate for elective office with the understanding that he will resign his position if nominated or elected.

7. **Retired employees.**—Persons retired from public office or employment are not regarded as subject to the restrictions of the law. Such persons may engage in politics to the same extent as persons not connected with the public service.

However, in any case where an annuitant is reemployed in the executive branch of the Federal Government, the political-activity restrictions of the act would apply. In this connection it should be noted that the individual's annuity would be suspended by his reentry to the Federal service and he would necessarily be considered as a Federal employee subject to the same political-activity restrictions that are applicable to other employees in the executive branch of the Federal Government.

8. **Postmasters and post office employees.**—For many years the political activities of certain post office employees, such as rural carriers and fourth-class postmasters, were restricted by the terms of specific Executive orders. However, such employees, including all postmasters, are now subject to the political-activity restrictions of section 1 of civil service rule I and section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act.

9. **Star route and contract carriers—special-delivery messengers—clerks in third- and fourth-class post offices.**—It has been held that persons em-

<sup>4</sup> Opinion, Attorney General, January 8, 1941.

ployed in these positions are not employees of the United States within the meaning of the Hatch Act and that consequently the provisions thereof do not apply to them.

10. **Employees in the District of Columbia government.**—The Hatch Act specifically provides that for the purposes of the act persons employed in the government of the District of Columbia shall be deemed to be employed in the executive branch of the Government of the United States. Therefore, the political activities of such employees, with the exception of the Commissioners and the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, who are not subject to the restriction against taking any active part in political management or in political campaigns, are subject to the same restrictions as are applied to Federal officers and employees.

11. **Attorney General's decisions.**—In addition to the types of employees mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, Circular No. 3301 of the Attorney General's Office, dated October 26, 1939, lists the following officers and employees in the executive branch of the Federal Government as being affected by the provisions of section 9 of the Hatch Act:

- (1) United States attorneys and marshals, their assistants and deputies.
- (2) Special attorneys of the Department of Justice and special assistants to the Attorney General.
- (3) Officers and employees of Governmental agencies, such as the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and the Public Works Administration.
- (4) Officers and employees occupying administrative and supervisory positions in the Work Projects Administration, the National Youth Administration, and the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The same circular states that the act has been construed as not applying to the following:

- (1) Officers and employees of the legislative branch of the Federal Government, including secretaries and clerks to Members of Congress and Congressional committees.
- (2) Officers and employees of the judicial branch of the Federal Government, including United States commissioners, clerks of United States courts, referees in bankruptcy, and their secretaries, deputies, and clerks.
- (3) Persons who are retained from time to time to perform special services on a fee basis and who take no oath of office, such as fee attorneys, inspectors, appraisers, and management brokers for the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, and special fee attorneys for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.
- (4) Persons who receive benefit payments, such as old-age assistance and unemployment compensation under the Social Security Act, rural rehabilitation grants, and payments under the agricultural-conservation program.

The Attorney General also ruled in an opinion to the Secretary of State, dated October 19, 1940 (39 Op. Atty. Gen. 508), that ambassadors and ministers were not prohibited from taking an active part in political campaigns.



#### IV. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES \*

12. **In general.**—In brief it may be said that the law is designed to prevent those subject to it from assuming general political leadership or from becoming prominently identified with any political movement, party, or faction, or with the success or failure of any candidate for election to public office. The following sections are devoted principally to a discussion of activities which had been decided by the Commission as prohibited by the civil-service rules prior to the enactment of section 15 of the Hatch Act, July 19, 1940.

13. **Activity by indirection.**—Any political activity which is prohibited in the case of an employee acting independently is also prohibited in the case of an employee acting in open or secret cooperation with others. Whatever the employee may not do directly or personally, he may not do indirectly or through an agent, officer, or employee chosen by him or subject to his control. Employees are, therefore, accountable for political activity by persons other than themselves, including wives or husbands, if, in fact, the employees are thus accomplishing by collusion and indirection what they may not lawfully do directly and openly. Political activity in fact, regardless of the methods or means used by the employee, constitutes the violation.

This does not mean that an employee's husband or wife may not engage in politics independently, upon his or her own initiative, and in his or her own behalf. Thus, for example, the Commission has held that the wife of a Federal employee might serve as a member of a board of election officers, it being affirmatively shown that the husband was not involved in politics. Cases have arisen, however, in which the facts showed that the real purpose of a wife's activity was to accomplish a political act prohibited to her husband, the attempt being made for her husband's benefit and at his instigation or even upon his coercion. This may be true of individuals or it may occur among groups of employees' wives, associated for the purpose of securing for their husbands what the husbands may not secure for themselves. In such situations, it is obvious that the prohibitions against political activity are being violated. The collusion or coercion renders the wife's activity imputable to the husband, he being guilty of the same infraction as if he were openly a participant.

14. **Conventions.**—Candidacy for or service as delegate, alternate, or proxy in any political convention or service as an officer or employee thereof is prohibited. Attendance merely as a spectator is permissible, but the employee so attending must not take any part in the convention or in the deliberations or proceedings of any of its committees, and must refrain from any public display of partisanship or obtrusive demonstration or interference.

15. **Primaries—caucuses.**—An employee may attend a primary meeting, mass convention, caucus, and the like, and may cast his vote on any question presented, but he may not pass this point in participating in its deliberations. He may not act as an officer of the meeting, con-

\* All items under this heading are subject to the exceptions in section 18 of the Hatch Act. (See subsection 29, page 15.)

vention, or caucus, may not address, make motions, prepare or assist in preparing resolutions, assume to represent others, or take any prominent part therein.

16. **Meetings.**—Service in preparing for, organizing or conducting a political meeting or rally, addressing such a meeting, or taking any part therein except as a spectator is prohibited.

17. **Committees.**—The holding of the office of Political Committeeman such as precinct committeeman, ward committeeman, etc., or service on or for any political committee or similar organization is prohibited. An employee may attend as a spectator any meeting of a political committee to which the general public is admitted but must refrain from activity as indicated in the preceding paragraphs.

Whether a committee has an ultimate political purpose determines whether a classified employee may properly serve as a member. Assignment may be to duties which, if considered alone, would seem far removed from active politics but which, when considered as a part of the whole purpose, assume an active political character. Thus the Commission has forbidden a civil-service employee to serve as chairman of the food committee at an occasion signifying the opening campaign speech of a nominee for Governor of a State. No attempt can be made to differentiate between workers on or under political committees with respect to the degree to which they are politically active.

18. **Clubs and organizations.**—Employees may be members of political clubs, but it is improper for them to be active in organizing such a club, to be officers of the club or members or officers of any of its committees or to act as such, or to address a political club. Service as a delegate from such a club to a league of political clubs is service as an officer or representative of a political club and is prohibited, as is service as a delegate or representative of such a club to or in any other organization. In other words, an employee may become a member of a political club, but may not take an active part in its management or affairs, and may not represent other members or attempt to influence them by his actions or utterances.

Section 6 of the act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. 555), provides in part—

That membership in any society, association, club, or other form of organization of postal employees not affiliated with any outside organization imposing an obligation or duty upon them to engage in any strike, or proposing to assist them in any strike, against the United States, having for its objects, among other things, improvements in the condition of labor of its members, including hours of labor and compensation therefor and leave of absence, by any person or groups of persons in said Postal Service, or the presenting by any such person or groups of persons of any grievance or grievances to the Congress or any Member thereof, shall not constitute or be cause for reduction in rank or compensation or removal of such person or groups of persons from said service.

Membership in a labor union by employees subject to the Hatch Act is not prohibited, where the organization is nonpartisan in character and has as its primary object improvements in the conditions of labor

of its members and other matters related to their individual welfare. Thus, the Commission has held that employees subject to the Hatch Act may hold memberships in the Central Labor Union.

Likewise it has been held that matters concerned solely with organization and management of a union of Federal employees are not political management or political activity in violation of section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act, and that adoption of a resolution limited to these matters would not violate the law.

Section 9A of the act of August 2, 1939, provides as follows:

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person employed in any capacity by any agency of the Federal Government, whose compensation, or any part thereof, is paid from funds authorized or appropriated by any act of Congress, to have membership in any political party or organization which advocates the overthrow of our constitutional form of government in the United States.

(2) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be immediately removed from the position or office held by him, and thereafter no part of the funds appropriated by any act of Congress for such position or office shall be used to pay the compensation of such person.

Civil-service employees may hold office in organizations established for social betterment. It is pointed out, however, that in certain circumstances activities of such organizations may take on a character of partisan political activity. Employees who become members or officers of organizations of this type must take the responsibility for seeing that the activities in which they engage do not become political in character.

19. **Civic organizations and citizens' associations.**—Activity in organizations having for their primary object the promotion of good government or the local civic welfare is not prohibited by the act of August 2, 1939, as amended, provided such activities have no connection with the campaigns of particular candidates or parties.

20. **Contributions.**—Employees may make voluntary contributions to a regularly constituted political organization for its general expenditures, subject to the limitation laid down in section 13 of the act. The term "contribution" includes a gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value, and includes a contract, promise, or agreement, whether or not legally enforceable, to make a contribution.

While employees may make contributions, they may not solicit, collect, receive, disburse, or otherwise handle contributions made for political purposes.

The Commission has held that voluntary contributions may be made at any time, even subsequent to a general election, so long as they are made to a regularly constituted political organization for its general expenditures.

In addition, sections 118 to 121 of the Criminal Code place certain restrictions on contributions by Federal employees. Contributions may not be handed over to another person in the Federal service; they may not be made in a Federal building; etc. For the text of these sections of the Criminal Code and further information on this matter, see

Parts VII, VIII and IX, pages 25 through 30. These sections of the Criminal Code are within the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice and the law provides severe penalties for violations.

21. **Expression of opinions.**—Although the act reserves to employees affected the right to “express their opinions on all political subjects and candidates,” this reservation is subject to the prohibition that employees may not take any active part in political management or in political campaigns. Public expression of opinion in such a way as to constitute taking an active part in political management or in political campaigns is accordingly prohibited.

An employee is not prohibited from wearing a political badge or button or displaying a political poster in the window of his home or on his automobile. However, it is regarded as a violation of the spirit of the law for a public servant to make a partisan display of any kind while on duty conducting the public business.

It should be remembered that employees are forbidden to become prominently identified with any political movement, party, or faction, or with the success or failure of any candidate for election to public office. Thus, distribution of campaign literature, badges, or buttons is prohibited activity.

22. **Newspapers—publication of letters or articles.**—An employee may not publish or be connected editorially or managerially with any newspaper generally known as partisan from a political standpoint, and may not write for publication or publish any letter or article, signed or unsigned, in favor of or against any political party, candidate, or faction. An employee who writes such a letter or article is responsible for any use that may be made of it whether or not he gives consent to such use.

The Commission has held that as a general rule a newspaper which is considered as being partisan from a political standpoint, either during the campaign or in the interval between campaigns, is regarded as being subject to application of the regulations against activity in connection therewith. It is not required that a publication be regarded as the organ of a political organization or that it have an official connection with any political organization or party. The terms “editorial and managerial” are intended to apply to responsibilities and duties which have to do with the making of decisions affecting the editorial policies. The objective behind the restriction on activity in connection with such publications or newspapers is prohibition of political activity of a partisan character through the medium of the public press by a person subject to the statute.

Whether or not ownership of stock or membership on a board of directors of a corporation which publishes a daily newspaper is a violation of the political-activity regulations will depend upon the degree to which the individual, by virtue of such ownership or membership, participates in controlling the editorial policy or news management of the publication. If a Federal employee makes decisions or assists in making decisions on editorial policy or news management with respect to the political status of the publication, a violation of

the regulations occurs, but mere ownership of stock would not of itself constitute a violation of the political-activity regulations.

There is no direct prohibition against correspondence work by an employee for newspapers. The employee will have the responsibility, however, of ascertaining that any material he submits is not in contravention of the regulations.

23. **Activity at the polls and for candidates.**—An employee has the right to vote as he pleases, and to exercise this right free from interference, solicitation, or dictation by any fellow employee or superior officer or any other person. It is a violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act to pay or offer to pay any person for voting or refraining from voting, or for voting for or against any candidate for Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, Congress. It is also a violation of the law to solicit, receive, or accept payment for one's vote or for withholding one's vote. (See U. S. Code, title 2, sec. 250.)

Under the act of August 2, 1939, it is a criminal offense for any person to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote as he may choose in any election of a National character. It is also a criminal offense to promise any employment, position, work, or compensation, or other benefit made possible by an act of Congress, as a consideration, favor, or reward for political activity or for the support of or opposition to any political candidate or party.

An employee subject to the law must avoid any offensive activity at primary and regular elections. He must refrain from soliciting votes, assisting voters to mark ballots, helping to get out the voters on registration and election days, acting as the accredited checker, watcher, or challenger of any party or faction, or any other partisan political activities at the polls. Rendering partisan political service, such as transporting voters to and from the polls and candidates on canvassing tours, whether for pay or gratuitously, is held to be within the scope of prohibited political activities. This is not intended to prohibit one subject to the act from transporting members of his immediate family to and from the polls, in view of the community of interest that exists in such cases. The foregoing provisions do not apply if the election in question is covered by the exceptions embodied in section 18 of the law of August 2, 1939, as amended. (See subsection 29, page 15.)

24. **Election officers.**—Service as an election officer of any kind, in which an individual's activities are such as to show partisanship or partisan political management, is prohibited.

25. **Parades.**—An employee may not participate in or help organize a political parade. An employee may be a member of a band or orchestra which takes part in parades or rallies provided such band or orchestra is generally available for hire as a musical organization.

26. **Petitions.**—The first amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridg-

ing the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Section 6 of the act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. 555), provides that "the right of persons employed in the civil service of the United States, either individually or collectively, to petition Congress, or any Member thereof, or to furnish information to either House of Congress, or to any Committee or Member thereof, shall not be denied or interfered with."

An employee subject to the law of August 2, 1939, as amended, is permitted to sign petitions, including nominating petitions, as an individual, without reference to his connection with the Government, but he may *not* initiate them, or canvass for the signatures of others, if such petitions are identified with political management or political campaigns. Employees are permitted to exercise the right as individuals to sign a petition favoring a candidate for office, but they may not do so as Government employees or as a group or association of Government employees.

27. Applying for Presidential positions not in the classified service.—When a classified employee seeks promotion by appointment or transfer to a Presidential office not in the classified service, there is no objection to his becoming a candidate for such an office, provided the consent of his department is obtained, and provided he does not violate section 1 of rule I, prohibiting the use of his official authority or influence in political matters and provided further that he does not neglect his duty and avoids any action that would cause public scandal or semblance of coercion of his fellow employees or of those over whom he desires to be placed in the position he seeks.

A classified employee may circulate a petition or seek endorsements for his own appointment to a Presidential position, subject to the qualifications above stated, and he may, as an individual, sign a petition or recommend another person for such an appointment; but he may not circulate a petition or solicit endorsements, recommendations, or support for the appointment of another person to such a position, whether such other person is a fellow employee or one not at the time in the Government service.

28. Candidacy for public office.—Candidacy for nomination or for election to a National, State, county, or municipal office is not permissible. The prohibition against political activity extends not merely to formal announcement of candidacy but also to the preliminaries leading to such announcement and to canvassing or soliciting support or doing or permitting to be done any act in furtherance of candidacy.

The Attorney General held in an opinion to the Secretary of the Interior dated April 17, 1940 (39 Op. Atty. Gen. 423), that the Hatch Act does not apply to the acceptance and holding of a local office to which an employee was elected without being a candidate, his name not appearing on the ballot but being written in by voters. However, the Commission interprets this opinion as applicable only in cases where the writing in of an employee's name is a spontaneous action on the part of the voters and does not come about as a result of pre-

arrangement whereby the employee was in effect a candidate before the vote was cast.

This decision is authority for the statement that the mere holding of a public office is not in itself a violation. (See also Attorney General's Circular No. 3301, October 26, 1939.)

However, it should be noted that membership on a political committee is not a public office, within the meaning of the foregoing, even though held by election in the regular election as a political representative of a ward, precinct, county, or of the voting subdivision of a State. The holding of such political offices is prohibited.

#### V. ACTIVITIES MADE PERMISSIBLE BY THE DIRECT TERMS OF THE HATCH ACT AS AMENDED

29. **Nonpartisan local elections—Elections involving general questions.**—By the terms of section 18 of the Hatch Act as amended July 19, 1940 (54 Stat. 767), certain specific exceptions to the general prohibition against taking any active part in political management or in political campaigns are set forth. Section 18 reads as follows:

Nothing in the second sentence of section 9 (a) or in the second sentence of section 12 (a) of this Act shall be construed to prevent or prohibit any person subject to the provisions of this Act from engaging in any political activity (1) in connection with any election and the preceding campaign if none of the candidates is to be nominated or elected at such election as representing a party any of whose candidates for presidential elector received votes in the last preceding election at which presidential electors were selected, or (2) in connection with any question which is not specifically identified with any National or State political party. For the purposes of this section, questions relating to constitutional amendments, referendums, approval of municipal ordinances, and others of a similar character, shall not be deemed to be specifically identified with any National or State political party.

The purport of section 18 is to remove from the prohibitions of the law activity which may, in a sense, be political but which is of a strictly local character, the issues of the election in question and the personalities of the candidates as such being divorced entirely from State and National political parties.

Each case necessarily must stand or fall on the facts involved therein. Some examples of the cases which have been decided under this section follow:

The appointment of a person subject to the act or the rule to a position on a school board for the purpose of serving out the term of a member who has resigned is permissible where it can be shown that the duties do not involve any political activity.

Officers or employees subject to the act or the rule may be candidates for a local fire board, on facts showing that the positions are of a purely local nature and nonpolitical, not involving a partisan election, and held without compensation.

In the case of a proposed charter amendment to permit municipal regulation of bus lines, it was decided that activities in connection with such a general question are such as would come within the terms of section 18 of the act.

In all such cases, however, the holding of the positions must not interfere with the efficient discharge of the duties of the Federal office and of this question the head of the Federal employing department is the sole judge.

30. Communities adjacent to the District of Columbia or communities the majority of whose voters are employees of the Federal Government.—For many years permission had been granted to employees residing in certain municipalities located near the District of Columbia whereby such employees were permitted to be candidates for and to hold local office in the municipalities in which they resided. This permission, which was granted either by an individual Executive order or by the action of the Commission based on an Executive order, remained in full force and effect until the passage of the act of August 2, 1939, which prohibited active participation in political management or in political campaigns without exception. When this act was amended by the act of July 19, 1940, a new section was added (section 16, 54 Stat. 767) whereby the Commission was authorized to promulgate regulations extending the privilege of active participation in local political management and local political campaigns to Federal employees residing in any municipalities or other political subdivisions of the States of Maryland and Virginia in the immediate vicinity of the District of Columbia or in municipalities the majority of whose voters are employed by the Government of the United States. This section of the amended act reads as follows:

Whenever the United States Civil Service Commission determines that, by reason of special or unusual circumstances which exist in any municipality or other political subdivision, in the immediate vicinity of the National Capital in the States of Maryland and Virginia or in municipalities the majority of whose voters are employed by the Government of the United States, it is in the domestic interest of persons to whom the provisions of this Act are applicable, and who reside in such municipality or political subdivision, to permit such persons to take an active part in political management or political campaigns involving such municipality or political subdivision, the Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations permitting such persons to take an active part in such political management and political campaigns to the extent the Commission deems to be in the domestic interest of such persons.

The Commission has promulgated regulations governing the extension of the privileges set forth in the section quoted above and copies of these regulations are available upon request to the Commission's central office in Washington, D. C. Under these regulations it is necessary that a formal request be received from the representatives of the community involved and that the petitioners furnish certain specified information relative to their community and its elections. In all cases the final decision as to the extension of the privileges of section 16 to any individual municipality depends on



the municipality's meeting certain prerequisites which are set forth in the Commission's regulations.

The privileges allowed by section 16 have after full consideration been extended by formal action of the Commission to the following municipalities or political subdivisions:

#### IN MARYLAND

Annapolis (minute of the Commission, May 16, 1941).	Glenarden (minute of the Commission, May 21, 1941).
Bladensburg (minute of the Commission, April 20, 1942).	Glen Echo (minute of the Commission, October 22, 1940).
Brentwood (minute of the Commission, September 26, 1940).	Greenbelt (minute of the Commission, October 4, 1940).
Capitol Heights (minute of the Commission, November 12, 1940).	Hyattsville (minute of the Commission, September 20, 1940).
Cheverly (minute of the Commission, December 18, 1940).	Kensington (minute of the Commission, November 8, 1940).
Chevy Chase, sections 1 and 2 (minute of the Commission, March 4, 1941).	Mount Rainier (minute of the Commission, November 22, 1940).
Chevy Chase, section 3 (minute of the Commission, October 8, 1940).	North Beach (minute of the Commission, September 20, 1940).
Chevy Chase, section 4 (minute of the Commission, October 2, 1940).	North Brentwood (minute of the Commission, May 6, 1941).
Martin's Additions 1, 2, 3, and 4 to Chevy Chase (minute of the Commission, February 13, 1941).	North Chevy Chase (minute of the Commission, July 22, 1942).
Chevy Chase View (minute of the Commission, February 26, 1941).	Northwest Park (minute of the Commission, February 17, 1943).
Cottage City (minute of the Commission, January 15, 1941).	Riverdale (minute of the Commission, September 26, 1940).
District Heights (minute of the Commission, November 2, 1940).	Seat Pleasant (minute of the Commission, August 31, 1942).
Edmonston (minute of the Commission, October 24, 1940).	Somerset (minute of the Commission, November 22, 1940).
Fairmount Heights (minute of the Commission, October 24, 1940).	Takoma Park (minute of the Commission, October 22, 1940).
Garrett Park (minute of the Commission, October 2, 1940).	University Park (minute of the Commission, January 18, 1941).
	Washington Grove (minute of the Commission, April 5, 1941).

#### IN VIRGINIA

Alexandria (minute of the Commission, April 15, 1941).	Clifton (minute of the Commission, July 14, 1941).
Arlington County (minute of the Commission, September 9, 1940).	Falls Church (minute of the Commission, June 6, 1941).

The Commission's actions extending the privileges of active participation in local self-government of the above-listed communities

of Maryland and Virginia to resident Federal officers or employees are subject to the following restrictions:

(1) Federal officers and employees in the exercise of these privileges must not neglect their official duties and must not engage in nonlocal partisan political activities.

(2) Federal officers and employees must not run for local office as candidates representing a political party or become involved in political management in connection with the campaign of a party candidate for office.

(3) Federal officers and employees who are candidates for local elective office must run as independent candidates and must conduct their campaigns in a purely nonpartisan manner.

(4) Federal officers and employees elected or appointed to local offices requiring full-time service must resign their positions with the Federal Government. If elected or appointed to offices requiring only part-time service they may accept and hold the same without relinquishing their Federal employment provided the holding of such part-time office does not conflict or interfere with their duties as officers or employees of the Federal Government. The department or independent agency in which Federal officers or employees are employed is the sole judge of whether or not the holding of the local office conflicts or interferes with their official duties as officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(5) The permission granted by the Commission to any particular community may be suspended or withdrawn by the Commission when in its opinion the activities resulting therefrom are or may become detrimental to the public interest or inimical to the proper enforcement of the political-activity law and rules.

## VI. FEDERAL OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES HOLDING LOCAL OFFICE

31. **General statement.**—While the Hatch Act and the civil-service rule prohibit Federal employees from being candidates for local elective office except in the instances mentioned in section V, subsection 30 above, there also must be considered those instances in which a Federal officer or employee wishes to accept an *appointive* office under a State or local government or in which a State or local officeholder wishes to accept Federal employment and does not wish to relinquish his State or local office or position. In these latter instances the mere holding of the local office in the absence of facts showing partisan political activity would *not* constitute a violation of the Hatch Act; however, the terms of an Executive order which has been in effect since 1873 must be applied.

This order, which is dated January 17, 1873, generally prohibits persons holding Federal civil office by appointment from, at the same time, accepting or holding any office or position under the State, Territorial, or municipal government. There are certain specific exceptions to this general prohibition set forth in the original order and subsequent amending orders and it has been ruled that unless

a position or office is specifically listed as an exception, it must be viewed as within the prohibitions of the order of 1873 (25 Dec. Comp. Treas. 234). Also, there is in effect, during the period of the present national emergency, Executive Order No. 8516 of August 15, 1940, which suspends and makes inoperative the Executive order of January 17, 1873, insofar as the United States Civil Service Commission shall by regulation authorize appointments to positions directly concerned with the national defense. The Commission has by formal action under the authority of the Executive order of August 15, 1940, decided that the Executive order of January 17, 1873, is not to be applied to persons appointed *subsequent* to August 15, 1940, to positions declared by the Commission to be directly concerned with the national defense.

For further information relative to the Executive order of January 17, 1873 the Executive order of August 15, 1940, and other amending orders, see subsections 32 through 35. *NOTE.—These Executive orders are no longer effective insofar as they conflict with the political-activity restrictions of section 9 (a) of the Hatch Act and are not to be construed as permitting officers and employees in the executive branch of the Federal Government to become candidates for any elective office which is to be filled in an election involving candidates who are either directly or indirectly representing a political party.*

32. Executive order of January 17, 1873.—This order, which is in full force and effect as applied to Federal employees holding positions not directly concerned with the national defense and to persons appointed to the Federal service prior to August 15, 1940, reads as follows:

Whereas it has been brought to the notice of the President of the United States that many persons holding civil office by appointment from him or otherwise under the Constitution and laws of the United States while holding such Federal positions accept offices under the authority of the States and Territories in which they reside, or of municipal corporations, under the charters and ordinances of such corporations, thereby assuming the duties of the State, Territorial, or municipal office at the same time that they are charged with the duties of the civil office held under Federal authority:

And whereas it is believed that, with but few exceptions, the holding of two such offices by the same person is incompatible with a due and faithful discharge of the duties of either office; that it frequently gives rise to great inconvenience, and often results in detriment to the public service; and, moreover, is not in harmony with the genius of the Government:

In view of the premises, therefore, the President has deemed it proper thus and hereby to give public notice that, from and after the 4th day of March, A. D. 1873 (except as herein specified), persons holding any Federal civil office by appointment under the Constitution and laws of the United States will be expected, while holding such office, not to accept or hold any office under any State or Territorial government, or under the charter or ordinances of any municipal corporation; and, further, that the acceptance or continued holding of any such State, Territorial, or municipal office, whether elective or by appointment, by any person holding civil office as aforesaid under the Government of the United States, other than judicial offices under the Constitution of the United States, will be deemed a vacation of the Federal office held by such person, and will be taken to be and will be treated as a resignation by such

Federal officer of his commission or appointment in the service of the United States.

The offices of justices of the peace, of notaries public, and of commissioners to take the acknowledgment of deeds, of bail, or to administer oaths, shall not be deemed within the purview of this order and are excepted from its operation, and may be held by Federal officers.

The appointment of deputy marshals of the United States may be conferred upon sheriffs or deputy sheriffs. Any deputy postmasters, the emoluments of whose office do not exceed \$600 per annum, are also excepted from the operation of this order and may accept and hold appointments under State, Territorial, or municipal authority, provided the same be found not to interfere with the discharge of their duties as postmasters. Heads of departments and other officers of the Government who have the appointment of subordinate officers are required to take notice of this order, and to see to the enforcement of its provisions and terms within the sphere of their respective departments or offices and as relates to the several persons holding appointments under them, respectively.

33. Interpretation of the order of January 17, 1873.—An Executive order of January 28, 1873, as amended by Executive order of August 27, 1933, is as follows:

Inquiries having been made from various quarters as to the application of the Executive order issued on the 17th of January relating to the holding of State or municipal offices by persons holding civil offices under the Federal Government, the President directs the following reply to be made:

It has been asked whether the order prohibits a Federal officer from holding also the office of an alderman or of a common councilman in a city, or of a town councilman of a town or village, or of appointments under city, town, or village governments. By some it has been suggested that there may be distinction made in case the office be with or without salary or compensation. The city or town offices of the description referred to, by whatever names they may be locally known, whether held by election or by appointment, and whether with or without salary or compensation, are of the class which the Executive order intends not to be held by persons holding Federal offices.

It has been asked whether the order prohibits Federal officers from holding positions on boards of education, school committees, public libraries, religious or eleemosynary institutions incorporated or established or sustained by State or municipal authority. Positions and service on such boards and committees, and professorships in colleges<sup>6</sup> are not regarded as "offices" within the contemplation of the Executive order, but as employments or service in which all good citizens may be engaged without incompatibility and in many cases without necessary interference with any position which they may hold under the Federal Government. Officers of the Federal Government may therefore engage in such service, provided the attention required by such employment does not interfere with the regular and efficient discharge of the duties of their office under the Federal Government. The head of the department under whom the Federal office is held will in all cases be the sole judge whether or not the employment does thus interfere.

<sup>6</sup> Includes assistant professorships in a State college, assistant lectureships in an evening school of a municipal university, instructorships in a State college, and similar positions in State and municipal colleges and universities (minute of Commission, August 7, 1937).

The question has also been asked with regard to officers of the State militia. Congress having exercised the power conferred by the Constitution to provide for organizing the militia, which is liable to be called forth to be employed in the service of the United States, and is thus, in some sense, under the control of the General Government, and is, moreover, of the greatest value to the public, the Executive order of the 17th January is not considered as prohibiting Federal officers from being officers in the militia in the States and Territories.

It has been asked whether the order prohibits persons holding office under the Federal Government being members of local or municipal fire departments, also whether it applies to mechanics employed by the day in the armories, arsenals, and navy yards, etc., of the United States. Unpaid service in local or municipal fire departments is not regarded as an office within the intent of the Executive order, and may be performed by Federal officers, provided it does not interfere with the regular and efficient discharge of the duties of the Federal office, of which the head of the department under which the office is held will in each case be the judge.

Mechanics and laborers employed by the day in armories, arsenals, navy yards, etc., and master workmen and others who hold appointments from the Government or from any department, whether for a fixed time or at the pleasure of the appointing power, are embraced within the operation of the order.

34. Executive order of August 15, 1940.—This order, which suspends the prohibitions of the Executive order of January 17, 1873, as applied to certain national-defense appointments and appointees, reads as follows:

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 1753 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (U. S. C., title 5, sec. 631) and as President of the United States, it is ordered that the Executive Order of January 17, 1873, as amended, prohibiting, with certain exceptions, Federal officers and employees from holding State, territorial and municipal offices, be, and it is hereby, suspended and made inoperative in so far as the United States Civil Service Commission, shall, by regulation, authorize appointments to positions directly concerned with national defense.

The Commission has promulgated the following regulations to govern the application of the above-quoted Executive order:

1. August 15, 1940, shall be considered as the effective date for application of Executive Order 8516 and therefore the prohibitions of the Executive order of January 17, 1873, shall not be applied to persons appointed subsequent to August 15, 1940, to positions directly concerned with the national defense.

2. Executive Order 8516 shall apply with equal force and effect to Federal officers or employees appointed subsequent to August 15, 1940, to State or local positions directly connected with national defense and to State or local officers or employees appointed subsequent to August 15, 1940, to Federal positions directly connected with national defense.

3. (a) All Federal positions, appointments to which are governed by the War Service Regulations, shall be considered positions directly connected with national defense.

(b) The applicability of Executive Order 8516 to State or local positions will be determined by the facts in each particular case.

4. Nothing in these regulations, nor in Executive Order 8516, shall be construed to permit the holding of a State or local position by a Federal officer or employee or the holding of a Federal position by an officer or employee of a State or local government, when such holding is prohibited by the rules or regulations of the department or agency wherein said officer or employee is employed, or when the duties of the State or local position will conflict or interfere with the individual's official duties as a Federal employee, provided that the employing department or agency will be considered as the sole judge in determining these factors.

5. The terms of Executive Order 8516 are subject to the general political activity restrictions of section 1 of Civil Service Rule I and the Hatch Act. Therefore the authority granted by the Executive order can in no way be construed as authorizing any person subject to such political activity restrictions to become a candidate for election or re-election to any public elective office which is to be filled in an election involving party candidates.

35. Executive orders creating exceptions to the Executive order of January 17, 1873.—Federal employees are again cautioned that the authority conferred by these orders is now subject to the general restrictions of the Hatch Act. Thus, these orders do *not* authorize Federal employees to be candidates for *any* elective office which is to be filled in an election involving party candidates for public office.

A brief summarization of these orders is as follows:

**Employees of the Department of Agriculture.**—Officers and employees of the Department of Agriculture are authorized to hold State and Territorial positions when such action is deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture to secure a more efficient administration (Executive order of June 26, 1907).

**Collectors of cotton statistics, Bureau of the Census.**—State and county officials may be appointed special agents under the Bureau of the Census for the collection of cotton statistics (Executive order of August 4, 1909).

**Moderators of town meetings.**—The temporary office of moderator of a town meeting and offices of a like character are excepted from the operation of the order of January 17, 1873 (Executive order of August 24, 1912).

**Employees of the Reclamation Service and the National Park Service.**—Employees of the Reclamation Service and the National Park Service may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, accept appointments as deputy State fish or game wardens, if no compensation is attached to the position (Executive order of July 9, 1914).

**Lighthouse Service—Laborers.**—Laborers in charge of lights in the Lighthouse Service are excepted from the operation of the order of January 17, 1873 (Executive order of October 6, 1915).<sup>7</sup>

**Special agents, Department of Labor.**—Persons holding State, Territorial, or municipal positions may be appointed as special agents when such action is deemed necessary by the Secretary of Labor to secure a more efficient administration of any law coming within the purview of the Department of Labor (Executive order of January 2, 1923).

**Employees of the Veterans' Administration.**—Officers and employees of the United States Veterans' Administration serving in a medical capacity and on a part-time basis may with the consent of the Administrator hold State, county, or

<sup>7</sup> The Lighthouse Service has been consolidated with the Coast Guard, Treasury Department.

municipal positions in which employed in a medical capacity. Officers and employees of the United States Veterans' Administration may with the consent of the Administrator accept appointments under State, county, or municipal authority as deputy sheriffs (Executive order of August 6, 1924).

**Employees of the Alaska Railroad.**—Employees of the Alaska Railroad, permanently residing in municipalities on the line of the railroad, are permitted to become candidates for and hold municipal office therein (Executive order of October 22, 1926).

**Appointments in the Department of Commerce.**—Persons holding State, Territorial, or municipal positions may receive, unless prohibited by law, appointments under the Department of Commerce when the Secretary of that Department deems such employment necessary to secure more efficient administration of the duties of his department (Executive order of July 3, 1931).

**Officers of the Public Health Service.**—Officers of the Public Health Service are permitted, upon recommendation of the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, and the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, to hold office in State, Territorial, or local health organizations, in order to cooperate with and aid State, Territorial, or local health departments; and State, Territorial, or local health officials or employees are permitted, unless prohibited by law, to hold office in the Public Health Service when the Surgeon General and the Secretary of the Treasury deem such employment necessary to secure a more efficient administration of the duties imposed upon the Public Health Service (Executive order of August 31, 1931).

**Offices under municipalities of the Virgin Islands.**—Membership in the Colonial Council of the Municipality of St. Thomas and St. John, or in the Colonial Council of the Municipality of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, being unremunerative positions, shall not be deemed disqualification for employment in the Federal service of the Virgin Islands, notwithstanding the Executive order of January 17, 1873, provided it does not interfere with the efficient discharge of the duties of the Federal position, of which the head of the department under which the position is held will be the judge (Executive order of February 27, 1933).

**Employees of the National Park Service.**—Employees of the National Park Service are permitted, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, to accept appointments as deputy sheriffs under the laws of the States or Territories in which such employees may be on duty: *Provided*, That their services as such deputy sheriffs shall be without compensation and shall not in any manner interfere or conflict with the performance of their duties as employees of the National Park Service (Executive order of April 3, 1936).

**Medical officers, Indian Service.**—Officers and employees of the Indian Service, Department of the Interior, serving in a medical or sanitary capacity, either on a part-time or full-time basis, may hold, with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior, State, county, or municipal positions of a similar character: *Provided*, That such services shall not in any manner interfere or conflict with the performance of their duties as officers or employees of the Indian Service: *And provided further*, That there shall be no additional compensation when the Federal officer or employee is carried on a full-time basis (Executive order of May 13, 1936).

**District advisers in the Interior Department under the act of June 28, 1934.**—State, county, or municipal officers, when duly elected by qualified voters of a grazing district, may be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to serve as

district adviser under the act of June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1269), as amended by the act of July 14, 1939 (Public, No. 173, 76th Cong.), for intermittent duty, when the Secretary of the Interior deems such services necessary in the interest of grazing on public lands (Executive order of June 17, 1937).

**Immigration inspector, Department of Labor, Virgin Islands.**—Officers and employees of the Municipalities of St. Thomas and St. John or of the Municipality of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, may be appointed to the position of immigration inspector for the Virgin Islands (Executive order of November 6, 1937).

**Employees of the Interior Department.**—Officers and employees of the Interior Department, upon approval of the Secretary of the Interior, may hold office under State, Territorial, and municipal governments engaged in cooperative and related work with the Department, provided that the services to be performed pertain to such work and do not interfere with the performance of the Federal duties. State, Territorial, and municipal employees engaged in cooperative and related work with the Interior Department may be appointed in the Department of the Interior when the Secretary deems such employment necessary to secure more efficient administration of said work. Appointments of such officers and employees to positions subject to the civil-service laws must be made in accordance with such laws (Executive order of January 21, 1938).

**Employees of the United States Marshal for the Virgin Islands.**—Any officer or employee of the police or prison departments of the Territorial and municipal governments of the Virgin Islands may be appointed to the position of deputy or any other position in the office of the United States Marshal for the Virgin Islands (Executive order of May 24, 1938).

**Employees of the Division of Grazing, Department of the Interior.**—Employees of the Division of Grazing of the Department of the Interior, with the approval of the Secretary, may accept appointment as deputy fire warden, deputy fish warden, or deputy game warden under the States in which such employees may be on duty, provided that their services in the State position are without compensation and do not interfere with the performance of the duties of the Federal position (Executive order of August 4, 1938).

**School teachers and instructors.**—Officers and employees of the Federal Government may hold positions as teachers or instructors in any State, Territorial, or municipal school or university, provided, that their holding of such position shall not in any manner interfere or conflict with the performance of their duties during their regular hours of duty as officers or employees of the Federal Government (Executive order of April 11, 1940).

**Utilization of services of State and local officers.**—The heads of a number of Federal agencies are authorized by specific statutes to employ the services of State and local officers.

**Employees residing in municipalities near the District of Columbia.**—Special permission has been granted to employees residing in municipalities near the District of Columbia to hold local municipal office by the Executive order of February 14, 1912. However, the scope of such permission was restricted by the act of August 2, 1939, which prohibited active participation in political management or in political campaigns. When this act was amended July 19, 1940, provision was made for the reextension of these privileges. (See section 30, pages 16 through 18.)



## VII. STATUTES RELATING TO POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL COERCION AND DISCRIMINATION, AND THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF PUBLIC OFFICE

36. In addition to the restrictions of the act of August 2, 1939 (as amended), civil-service rules, Executive orders, and departmental regulations, the freedom of officers and employees of the executive civil service to engage in politics is limited further by a number of statutes. These statutes are generally applicable to all officers and employees of the United States, whether or not in the classified service, and, in some cases, the language of the statute is sufficiently broad to include any person receiving compensation for services from money derived from the Treasury of the United States, and other persons. These statutes are set forth in the following sections. Some of the activities prohibited under penalty of fine and imprisonment are:

1. Solicitation or receipt of political contributions by one officer or employee from another.

2. The giving or handing over of a political contribution by one employee to another.

3. Solicitation or receipt of political contributions in a Federal building by any person, whether or not an employee of the Government.

4. Solicitation or receipt by any person of political contributions from any person receiving any benefit under any act of Congress appropriating funds for relief.

5. Solicitation or receipt of any thing of value, either for personal reward or as a political contribution, in return for the promise to use, or the use of, influence to secure an appointive office under the United States.

6. Payment or the offer of payment for the use of influence in securing an appointive office under the United States.

7. Promising employment, compensation, or other benefit made possible by act of Congress as consideration or reward for political activity.

8. Discrimination by an officer or employee in favor of, or against, another officer or employee on account of political contributions.

9. Depriving any person on account of race, creed, color, or political activity, of compensation or other benefit made possible by any act of Congress appropriating funds for relief.

10. Disclosure for political purposes of any list or names of persons receiving benefits under an act of Congress appropriating funds for relief and the receipt of such a list or names for political purposes.

## VIII. POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS

37. **Solicitation or receipt of political contributions from Federal employees.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 208 (Criminal Code, sec. 118, as amended), provides as follows:

It is unlawful for any Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, Congress, or any candidate for, or individual elected as, Senator, Representative, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner, or any officer or em-

ployee of the United States, or any person receiving any salary or compensation for services from money derived from the Treasury of the United States, to directly or indirectly solicit, receive, or be in any manner concerned in soliciting or receiving, any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political purpose whatever, from any other such officer, employee, or person.

Section 5 of the act of August 2, 1939, 53 Stat. 1148 (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61d), reads as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit or receive or be in any manner concerned in soliciting or receiving any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political purpose whatever from any person known by him to be entitled to or receiving compensation, employment, or other benefit provided for or made possible by any act of Congress appropriating funds for work relief or relief purposes.<sup>3</sup>

38. **Circulars of solicitation bearing names of Federal employees.**—In an opinion of October 17, 1902 (24 Op. 133), the Attorney General held that the sending of a circular letter by a political committee to Federal officers and employees soliciting financial aid in Congressional or State elections, upon or attached to which appear the names of Federal officers or employees, is a violation of section 11 of the Civil Service Act (now sec. 118 of the Criminal Code), which declares that no officer or employee of the Government shall be in any manner concerned in soliciting or receiving any assessment or contribution for any political purpose whatever from any officer or employee of the United States. The statute unquestionably condemns all such circulars, notwithstanding the particular form of words adopted, in order to show a request rather than a demand, and to give the responses a quasi-voluntary character.

39. **"Political assessments" defined.**—The following is an extract from the decision in *United States v. Scott* (74 Fed., 213), in the Circuit Court of the District of Kentucky, rendered October 7, 1895, by Taft, J.:

To charge a man with soliciting a contribution from United States officers for a political purpose carries with it by implication a charge that the accused knew the purpose for which the contribution was solicited. The words "for a political purpose" may reasonably be construed to qualify not only the contribution but the solicitation. Similarly, to charge that a man received from another his contribution for a political purpose, by implication charges that the reception was for the same purpose as the contribution. \* \* \* Nor was it necessary to set out the specific averment that the defendant knew that the persons from whom the contributions were received were officers of the United States.

The following extract is from the decision rendered by McCall, J., in the case of *United States v. Dutro, L. W.*, 1913, Western District of Tennessee (unreported):

The statute under which the indictment was found prohibits (and I shall speak of this concrete case) the postmaster at Memphis, Tenn., from receiving,

<sup>3</sup>Under section 8 of the act penalty for violation of this section is fine of not more than \$1,000, imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.

or being in any manner concerned in receiving, any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political purpose whatever from any official, clerk, or employee of the United States.

There are four counts in the indictment. Two of them charge the defendant with receiving subscriptions and contributions for political purposes from an officer, clerk, or employee of the United States, and two of them charge defendant with being concerned in receiving such assessment or subscription for political purposes from a clerk or employee of the United States.

Evidently one of the purposes of Congress in enacting the legislation was to prohibit superior officers from bringing pressure to bear upon their subordinates in order to secure contributions for campaign purposes, and the act is couched in very broad terms.

This evidence (which so far is uncontradicted) shows that the defendant, Mr. Dutro, did receive two contributions for campaign purposes from an officer or clerk or employee of the United States. Whatever may have been Mr. Dutro's frame of mind in regard to his connection with it, the one fact remains, as the evidence shows, that he received these contributions for the purposes and from the parties which the law prohibits. Perhaps and no doubt he did so without any thought that he was violating any statute, and felt that he was acting purely as a conveyor of these contributions to the political parties for whom they were intended, to accommodate those who were making the contributions, and purely as a personal matter, but I think under the evidence his action was in violation of the statute.

The other two counts, as I have pointed out, charge the defendant with being concerned in receiving assessments, subscriptions, or contributions for campaign purposes from a clerk, employee, or officer of the United States. There is a controversy here between counsel as to what the word "concerned" means. From what the law books say which have been read here, and from my own impression, it seems that the word "concerned" means to be interested in, or take part in, receiving such contributions. If Mr. Dutro, by his connection with these two subscriptions, took a part in the contributions being made by employees of the Government for campaign purposes, he would be guilty. I think the natural construction of the phrase or term or word necessarily leads to the conclusion that he did take a part in receiving the contributions, because he received and conveyed them from the contributors to the parties for whom they were intended, and, as the proof so far shows, he knew that the parties who were making the contributions were clerks under him in the Post Office Department, and he knew the purpose for which the money was to be used and where it was to go.

The foregoing case definitely establishes the principle that an employee of the Government who receives a political contribution from another such employee as a mere agent or messenger for the purpose of turning it over to a political organization commits a violation of the statute.

**40. Solicitation or receipt of political contribution in Federal buildings.—**The United States Code, title 18, section 209 (Criminal Code, sec. 119), provides that—

No person shall, in any room or building occupied in the discharge of official duties by any officer or employee of the United States mentioned in section 208

of this title, or in any navy yard, fort, or arsenal, solicit in any manner whatever or receive any contribution of money or other thing of value for any political purpose whatever.

41. **Letters addressed to Federal buildings.**—The Commission by a minute of March 23, 1897, held that addressing a letter to a Government employee in a Government building soliciting political contributions is a solicitation in that building within the meaning of section 12 of the Civil Service Act, but notwithstanding numerous violations no opportunity arose of having the question judicially determined until 1907, when an indictment was obtained against Edward S. Thayer at Dallas, Texas. A demurrer to the indictment was sustained on the ground that the act required the personal presence in the Government building of the solicitor. Appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, and the judgment of the lower court was reversed. (*United States v. Thayer*, 209 U. S. 39.) The opinion of the Court, delivered by Justice Holmes on March 9, 1908, establishes definitely the proposition that solicitation by letter or circular addressed to and delivered by mail or otherwise to an officer or employee of the United States at the office or building in which he is employed in the discharge of his official duties is a solicitation “in a room or building” within the meaning of this section, the solicitation taking place where the letter was received. (See also *United States v. Smith*, 163 Fed., 926, where the letter was personally delivered.)

42. **Letters delivered in Federal buildings.**—The Commission holds that the sending through the mails of letters to Government employees soliciting political contributions, their street or home address being omitted from the envelopes, with the result that the letters are delivered by the postal authorities in the Government building in which they are employed, constitutes a violation of this section. It is a maxim of the law that a person is presumed to intend the natural and probable consequences of his acts, and failure or omission to take measures to avoid delivery of such letters in a Government building will render the offender liable to prosecution.

43. **Discrimination on account of political contributions.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 210 (Criminal Code, sec. 120), provides as follows:

No officer or employee of the United States mentioned in section 208 of this title shall discharge or promote or degrade or in any manner change the official rank or compensation of any other officer or employee, or promise or threaten so to do, for giving or withholding or neglecting to make any contribution of money or other valuable thing for any political purpose.

(See also sec. 52 herein.)

44. **Payment of political contributions by one employee to another.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 211 (Criminal Code, sec. 121), provides as follows:

No officer, clerk, or other person in the service of the United States shall, directly or indirectly, give or hand over to any other officer, clerk, or person in the service of the United States, or to any Senator or Member of or Delegate

to Congress or Resident Commissioner, any money or other valuable thing on account of or to be applied to the promotion of any political object whatever.

**45. Penalties for assessments.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 212 (Criminal Code, sec. 122), provides that—

Whoever shall violate any provision of sections 208 to 211 of this title shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.

**46. Foregoing offenses declared felonies.**—By section 15 of the Civil Service Act it was declared that persons violating any provisions of the four preceding sections should be guilty of a misdemeanor, but this section is now superseded by section 122 of the Criminal Code, above quoted, which makes such violation a felony in view of the following provision of section 335 of the Criminal Code (U. S. C., title 18, sec. 541) :

All offenses which may be punished by death or imprisonment for a term exceeding 1 year shall be deemed felonies. All other offenses shall be deemed misdemeanors.

## IX. PURCHASE AND SALE OF PUBLIC OFFICE

**47. Payment for influence in procuring appointive public office prohibited.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 149, provides as follows :

It shall be unlawful to pay or offer or promise to pay any sum of money, or any other thing of value, to any person, firm, or corporation in consideration of the use or promise to use any influence, whatsoever, to procure any appointive office under the Government of the United States for any person whatsoever.

**48. Receiving payment for influence in procuring appointive public office prohibited.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 150, provides as follows :

It shall be unlawful to solicit or receive from anyone, whatsoever, either as a political contribution, or for personal emolument, any sum of money or thing of value, whatsoever, in consideration of the promise of support, or use of influence, or for the support or influence of the payee, in behalf of the person paying the money, or any other person, in obtaining any appointive office under the Government of the United States.

**49. Punishment for violation.**—The United States Code, title 18, section 151, provides :

Anyone convicted of violating sections 149 and 150 of this title shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

**50. Promising benefits for political activity.**—Section 3 of the act of August 2, 1939, 53 Stat. 1147 (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61b), reads :

It shall be unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly to promise any employment, position, work, compensation, or other benefit, provided for or made possible in whole or in part by any act of Congress, to any person as

consideration, favor, or reward for any political activity or for the support of or opposition to any candidate or any political party in any election.\*

## X. POLITICAL COERCION

51. Section 2, clause second, of the Civil Service Act directs that the civil-service rules "shall provide and declare as nearly as the conditions of good administration will warrant, as follows: \* \* \* Sixth. That no person in said service has any right to use his official authority or influence to coerce the political action of any person or body." In pursuance of this section, civil-service rule I, section 1, provides, in part, that "No person in the executive civil service shall use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the result thereof." This provision applies to all persons in the executive civil service, nonclassified as well as classified, and is held to prohibit a superior officer from requesting or requiring the rendition of any political service or the performance of political work of any sort by subordinates.

Section 1 of the act of August 2, 1939, 53 Stat. 1147 (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61), reads as follows:

That it shall be unlawful for any person to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, or to attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote or to vote as he may choose, or of causing such other person to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, or Member of the House of Representatives at any election held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting a President, a Vice President, a Presidential elector, or any Member of the Senate or any Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and insular possessions.\*

Section 7 of the act of August 2, 1939, 53 Stat. 1148 (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61f), reads:

No part of any appropriation made by any act, heretofore or hereafter enacted, making appropriations for work relief, relief, or otherwise to increase employment by providing loans and grants for public-works projects, shall be used for the purpose of, and no authority conferred by any such act upon any person shall be exercised or administered for the purpose of interfering with, restraining, or coercing any individual in the exercise of his right to vote at any election.\*

## XI. POLITICAL DISCRIMINATION

52. Failure to contribute or render political service not prejudicial.—Section 2, clause second, of the Civil Service Act reads:

\* Under sec. 8 of the act, penalty for violation of this section is fine of not more than \$1,000, imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.

Fifth. That no person in the public service is for that reason under any obligations to contribute to any political fund or to render any political service, and that he will not be removed or otherwise prejudiced for refusing to do so.

Section 4 of the act of August 2, 1939, 53 Stat. 1147 (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61c), reads as follows :

It shall be unlawful for any person to deprive, attempt to deprive, or threaten to deprive, by any means, any person of any employment, position, work, compensation, or other benefit provided for or made possible by any act of Congress appropriating funds for work relief or relief purposes, on account of race, creed, color, or any political activity, support of, or opposition to any candidate or any political party in any election.<sup>10</sup>

53. **No disclosure as to opinions or affiliations.**—Section 2 of rule I provides as follows :

*No disclosure or discriminations.*—No question in any form of application or in any examination shall be so framed as to elicit information concerning the political or religious opinions or affiliations of any applicant, nor shall any inquiry be made concerning such opinions or affiliations, and all disclosures thereof shall be discountenanced, except as to such membership in political parties or organizations as constitutes by law a disqualification for Government employment. No discrimination shall be exercised, threatened, or promised by any person in the executive civil service against or in favor of any applicant, eligible, or employee in the classified service because of race, or his political or religious opinions or affiliations, except as may be authorized or required by law.

54. **Definition of discrimination.**—Political discrimination consists in giving appointment, promotion, or any other favor to an appointee, eligible, or candidate because of his politics, or withholding appointment, promotion, or any other favor from an appointee, eligible, or candidate because of his politics. An appointing officer who appoints or refuses to appoint an applicant because the applicant does or does not entertain certain political opinions, who makes any inquiry of the applicant or any other person as to the applicant's political opinions or affiliations, or reduces an employee because that employee refuses to render political service, to be coerced in political action, or to contribute money for political purposes, or who advances or promotes an employee for opposite reasons, violates the Civil Service Act and rules.

## XII. POLITICAL RECOMMENDATION

55. **Senators and Representatives.**—Section 10 of the Civil Service Act provides :

That no recommendation of any person who shall apply for office or place under the provisions of this act which may be given by any Senator or Member of the House of Representatives, except as to the character or residence of the

<sup>10</sup> Under sec. 8 of the act, penalty for violation of this section is fine of not more than \$1,000, imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.

applicant, shall be received or considered by any person concerned in making any examination or appointment under this act.

**56. Disclosing politics.**—Rule I, section 3, provides as follows:

No recommendation of an applicant, eligible, or employee in the classified service involving disclosure of his political or religious opinions or affiliations shall be considered or filed by the Civil Service Commission \* \* \* or by any officer concerned in making appointments or promotions.

**57. Letters disclosing politics not to be considered.**—It is the duty of officers concerned in making appointments or promotions to refuse to receive or consider letters disclosing the politics or religion of an applicant, eligible, or employee and to explain to the writers that communications based upon such grounds will not receive attention or be filed.

**58. Recommendation for promotion.**—Rule XI, section 3, provides that—

No recommendation for promotion except in the regular form of periodical service-rating reports or unless it be made by the person or persons under whose supervision such employee has served shall be considered by any officer concerned in making promotions. Recommendation in any other form or by any other person, if made with the knowledge and consent of the employee, shall be sufficient cause for debarring him from the promotion proposed, and a repetition of the offense shall be sufficient cause for removing him from the service.

**59. Disclosure of names for political purposes.**—Section 6 of the act of August 2, 1939, 53 Stat. 1148 (U. S. Code, title 18, section 61e), reads:

It shall be unlawful for any person for political purposes to furnish or to disclose, or to aid or assist in furnishing or disclosing, any list or names of persons receiving compensation, employment, or benefits provided for or made possible by any act of Congress appropriating, or authorizing the appropriation of, funds for work relief or relief purposes, to a political candidate, committee, campaign manager, or to any person for delivery to a political candidate, committee, or campaign manager, and it shall be unlawful for any person to receive any such list or names for political purposes.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> The penalty for violation of this section is a fine of not more than \$1,000, imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.



[fol. 117]            EXHIBIT "C" TO AFFIDAVIT

United States Civil Service Commission  
Political Activity and Political Assessments  
Of Federal Officeholders and Employees

[fol. 118]            Contents

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[fol. 120] Political Activity and Political Assessments of  
Federal Officeholders and Employees

I. General Prohibitions

1. Civil-service rule I and the act of August 2, 1939.—  
Civil-service rule I, section 1, reads as follows:

No person in the executive civil service shall use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the results thereof. Persons who by the provisions of these rules are in the competitive classified service, while retaining the right to vote as they please and to express privately their opinions on all political subjects, shall take no active part in political management or in political campaigns.

The act of August 2, 1939, provides in part as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any person employed in any administrative position by the United States, or by any department, independent agency, or other agency of the United States (including any corporation controlled by the United States or any agency thereof, and any corporation all of the capital stock of which is owned by the United States or any agency thereof), to use his official authority for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the election or the nomination of any candidate for the Office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, or Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and insular possessions (sec. 2, Public, No. 252, 76th Cong.).<sup>1</sup>

It shall be unlawful for any person employed in the executive branch of the Federal Government, or any agency or department thereof, to use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the result thereof. No officer or employee in the executive branch of the Federal Government, or any agency or department thereof, shall take any active part in political management or in political campaigns. All such persons shall retain the right to vote as they may choose and to express their opinions on all political subjects. For the purposes

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<sup>1</sup> Penalty for violation of this section is a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both (sec. 8, Public, No. 252, 76th Cong., Aug. 2, 1939).

of this section the term "officer" or "employee" shall not be construed to include (1) the President and Vice President of the United States; (2) persons whose compensation is paid from the appropriation for the office of the President; (3) heads and assistant heads of executive departments; (4) officers who are appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who determine policies to be pursued by the United States in its relations with foreign powers or in the Nation-wide administration of Federal laws.

Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be immediately removed from the position or office held by him, and thereafter no part of the funds appropriated by [fol. 121] any act of Congress for such position or office shall be used to pay the compensation of such person (sec. 9 (a) and (b), Public, No. 252, 76th Cong.).

The rule and the statute quoted above are general prohibition against participation in politics by officers and employees of the Government. All officers and employees of the Government are, in addition, subject to a number of statutes relating to solicitation of political contributions, political coercion, political discrimination, and the purchase and sale of public office, which are set forth in sections 36 to 59 of this publication.

Every Government employee is expected to be familiar with the statutes and the rule relating to political activity; ignorance does not excuse their violation. Each appointee to the classified service on entering on duty is required to sign a statement that he will familiarize himself with the rule and the laws relating to political activity.

2. Definition of political activity.—It is impossible to give a complete list of the particular activities in which an employee may not engage. The prohibition against political activity extends not only to national politics, but also to State, county, and municipal politics and to the activities of any political party by whatever designation it may be known. Any group of persons which opposes another group in matters of governmental principles or policies, or which contends for governmental power, is a political party. Since the scope of governmental activity is constantly changing, a question which is not a political issue at one time may assume a political aspect at another.

The merits of a particular cause or issue are immaterial. If politics is involved, active participation by employees of

the Government is prohibited. (See sec. 11.) An employee may participate in a discussion where no political issue is involved or make an address on any moral or ethical subject, but when two or more parties or factions become engaged in a contest for rival or antagonistic measures or policies of governmental control or regulation a political issue is created.

## II. Applicability of the Rule and Statute

3. Classified employees.—Active participation in politics by employees in the competitive classified service is prohibited by civil-service rule I and also by the act of August 2, 1939, regardless of whether the classified status of such employees was acquired through competitive examination, classification by statute, or classification by Executive order. (See sec. 9.)

4. Excepted and nonclassified employees.—Only the first sentence of section 1, civil-service rule I, applies to employees in positions excepted from the competitive classified service. This sentence has been partially enacted in section 2 of the act of August 2, 1939 (see sec. 1 above), and violation of this provision of the statute constitutes a criminal offense.

Under section 9 (a) of the act of August 2, 1939 (see sec. 1 above), all persons employed in the executive branch of [fol. 122] the Federal Government<sup>2</sup> whether or not such persons are in the competitive classified service are prohibited from using their official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the result thereof; and from taking an active part in political management or in political campaigns. The statute, however, expressly reserves to Government employees the right to vote and the right to express their opinions on all political

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<sup>2</sup> Except (a) the President and Vice President of the United States; (b) persons whose compensation is paid from the appropriation for the office of the President; (c) heads and assistant heads of executive departments; (d) officers who are appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who determine policies to be pursued by the United States in its relations with foreign powers or in the Nation-wide administration of Federal laws.

subjects. The effect of this section of the statute, therefore, is to place the same restrictions upon the political activities of all officers and employees of the executive branch of the Government, including Presidential appointees, as section 1 of civil-service rule I places upon the political activities of employees in the classified service, except that employees who are not in the competitive classified service may, according to a statement issued by the Attorney General, express their political opinions publicly, whereas classified employees are confined to a private expression of opinion. In expressing their political opinions publicly, however, nonclassified employees and excepted employees must not take part in an organized political campaign. Except for the manner in which non-classified employees are permitted to express their political opinions, there is no distinction between employees who are in the classified service and employees who are not in the classified service with respect to the prohibition against political activity.

5. Temporary employees—employees furloughed or on leave.—The mere fact that an employee is a temporary or emergency employee or a substitute, or is on furlough or leave of absence, does not exempt him from the statute or the rule. So long as an employee's name is carried on the rolls, restrictions regarding political activity apply to him and he must refrain from their violation, even though he may not be on active duty.<sup>3</sup> It is not permissible for an employee to take leave of absence for the purpose of working for a political committee or organization or of becoming a candidate for an elective office with the understanding that he will resign his classified position if nominated or elected.

6. Rural carriers.—An Executive order of December 30, 1911, provides as follows:

Hereafter paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII shall apply to the appointment of rural carriers, and three eligibles shall be certified by the Civil Service Commission.

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<sup>3</sup> An employee who resigns effective at the expiration of his accrued leave may engage in politics after his last day of active service (minute of Commission, Nov. 5, 1938).

In all cases selections shall be made with sole reference to merit and fitness and without regard to political considerations. No inquiry shall be made as to the political or religious opinions or affiliations of any eligible, and no recommendation in any way based thereon shall be received, considered, or filed by any officer concerned in making selections or appointments. Any such recommendation, in writing, forwarded to any such officer shall be at once re-[fol. 123] turned to the writer, with attention invited to the purport of this order, and attention hereto shall be similarly directed in connection with any verbal recommendation. Where it is found that there has been a violation of these provisions by any officer concerned in making selections or appointments, such fact shall be cause for the immediate removal of such officer from the service, and the Commission shall make prompt report of any such case for appropriate action to the Postmaster General, or, as to Presidential appointees, to the President. The appointment of the rural carrier concerned, if effected, shall be canceled.

Persons employed as rural carriers, while retaining the right to vote as they please and to express their opinion privately on all political subjects, shall take no active part in political management or in political campaigns. Any rural carrier taking such part shall be removed from the service or otherwise disciplined, recommendation as to the penalty to be imposed in each case to be made by the Civil Service Commission.

Note.—Paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII refer to the certification and appointment of eligibles.

7. Substitute rural carriers.—The restrictions regarding political activity are not applicable to substitute rural carriers, when they are not engaged upon substitute duties, to the same degree as to regular employees. While serving his route, however, a substitute is subject to the same discipline as a regular employee and must refrain from political activity. He must not use his position for political purposes, acting either independently or in collusion with the regular carrier.

8. Fourth-class postmasters.—The following is an extract from regulations approved by the President November 25, 1912:



In all cases selection for appointment shall be made with sole reference to merit and fitness and without regard to political or religious considerations. No inquiry shall be made as to the political or religious opinions or affiliations of any applicant or eligible, and in conformity with section 10 of the Civil Service Act no recommendation in any way based thereon shall be received or considered by any officer concerned in making selections or appointments. The attention of the writer of any such recommendation shall be invited to the purport of this order, and attention hereto shall be similarly directed in connection with any verbal recommendation. Where it is found that there has been a violation of these provisions by any officer concerned in making selections or appointments, such fact shall be cause for the immediate removal of such officer from the service, and the Civil Service Commission shall make prompt report of any such case for appropriate action to the Postmaster General, or, as to Presidential appointees to the President. The appointment of the fourth-class postmaster concerned, if effected, shall be canceled. Persons employed as postmasters of the fourth class, while retaining the right to vote as they please and to express their opinions privately on all political subjects, shall take no active part in political management or in political campaigns. Any such postmaster taking such part shall be removed from the service or otherwise disciplined, recommendations as to the penalty to be imposed in each case to be made by the Civil Service Commission. This section shall apply to all offices of the fourth class of whatever compensation.

9. Postmasterships at the first-, second-, and third-class offices.—Postmaster positions at the first-, second-, and third-class offices were included in the competitive classified service [fol. 124] by the act of June 25, 1938 (52 Stat. 1076), and the political activities of such postmasters are therefore subject to the same restrictions as those of classified officers and employees.

10. Retired employees.—Persons retired from the civil service are not regarded as employees of the Government and are not, therefore, subject to the restrictions of the civil-service rules. Such persons may engage in politics to the same extent as persons not connected with the Government service.

### III. Particular Types of Prohibited Activities

11. As has been pointed out, it is impossible to make a complete enumeration of all the particular types of political activities in which Government employees may not engage. The general scope of the political-activity rule has been defined in section 2 above. In the following sections some of the types of political activity which occur more frequently are discussed in detail.

12. Activity by indirection.—Any political activity which is prohibited in the case of an employee acting independently is also prohibited in the case of an employee acting in open or secret cooperation with others. Whatever the employee may not do directly or personally, he may not do indirectly or through an agent, officer, or employee chosen by him or subject to his control. Employees are therefore accountable for political activity by persons other than themselves, including wives or husbands, if, in fact, the employees are thus accomplishing by collusion and indirection what they may not lawfully do directly and openly. Political activity in fact, regardless of the methods or means used by the employee, constitutes the violation.

This does not mean that an employee's husband or wife may not engage in politics independently, upon his or her own initiative, and in his or her own behalf. Cases have arisen, however, in which the facts showed that the real purpose of a wife's activity was to accomplish a political act prohibited to her husband, the attempt being made for her husband's benefit and at his instigation or even upon his coercion. This may be true of individuals or it may occur among groups of employees' wives, associated for the purpose of securing for their husbands what their husbands may not secure for themselves. In such situations, it is obvious that the prohibitions against political activity are being indirectly violated. The collusion or coercion renders the wife's activity imputable to the husband, he being guilty of the same infraction as if he were openly a participant.

13. Conventions.—Candidacy for or service as delegate, alternate, or proxy in any political convention or service as an officer or employee thereof is prohibited. Attendance merely as a spectator is permissible, but the employee so attending must not take any-part in the convention or in the

deliberations or proceedings of any of its committees, and must refrain from any public display of partisanship or obtrusive demonstration or interference. (See secs. 4 and 19.)

14. Primaries—caucuses.—An employee may attend a primary meeting, mass convention, beat convention, caucus, and the like, and may cast his vote on any question presented, but he may not pass this point in participating in [fol. 125] its deliberations. He may not act as an officer of the meeting, convention, or caucus, may not address it, make motions, prepare or assist in preparing resolutions, assume to represent others, or take any prominent part therein.

15. Committees.—Service on or for any political committee or similar organization is prohibited. An employee may attend as a spectator any meeting of a political committee to which the general public is admitted, but must refrain from activity as indicated in the preceding paragraphs.

Whether a committee has an ultimate political purpose determines whether a classified employee may properly serve as a member. Assignment may be to duties which, if considered alone, would seem far removed from active politics, but which, when considered as a part of the whole purpose, assume an active political character. No attempt can be made to differentiate between workers on or under political committees with respect to the degree to which they are politically active.

16. Clubs and organizations.—Employees may be members of political clubs, but it is improper for them to be active in organizing such a club, to be officers of the club, or members or officers of any of its committees or to act as such, or to address a political club. Service as a delegate from such a club to a league of political clubs is service as an officer or representative of a political club and is prohibited, as is service as a delegate or representative of such a club to or in any other organization. In other words, an employee may become a member of a political club, but may not take an active part in its management or affairs, and may not represent other members or attempt to influence them by his actions or utterances. (See secs. 4 and 19.)

Section 6 of the act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. 555), provides in part—

That membership in any society, association, club, or other form of organization of postal employees not affiliated with any outside organization imposing an obligation or duty upon them to engage in any strike, or proposing to assist them in any strike, against the United States, having for its objects, among other things, improvements in the condition of labor of its members, including hours of labor and compensation therefor and leave of absence, by any person or groups of persons in said Postal Service, or the presenting by any such person or groups of persons of any grievance or grievances to the Congress or any Member thereof, shall not constitute or be cause for reduction in rank or compensation or removal of such person or groups of persons from said service.

Section 9A of the act of August 2, 1939 (Public, No. 252, 76th Cong.), provides as follows:

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person employed in any capacity by any agency of the Federal Government, whose compensation, or any part thereof, is paid from funds authorized or appropriated by any act of Congress, to have membership in any political party or organization which advocates the overthrow of our constitutional form of government in the United States.

(2) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be immediately removed from the position or office held by him, and thereafter no part of the funds appropriated by any act of Congress for such position or office shall be used to pay the compensation of such person.

17. Contributions.—An employee may make political contributions to any committee, organization, or person not employed by the United States, but may not solicit, collect, receive, or otherwise handle or disburse the contributions. (See provisions of the Criminal Code, discussed in secs. 36 to 50.)

18. Meetings.—Service in preparing for, organizing, or conducting a political meeting or rally, addressing such a meeting, or taking any part therein, except as a spectator, is prohibited.

19. Expression of opinions.—Although section 9 (a) of the act of August 2, 1939, reserves to Federal officers and employees the right to express their opinions on all political subjects, officers and employees in the competitive classified service are subject also to section 1 of civil-service rule I, under which such employees must confine themselves to a *private* expression of opinion. Nonclassified and excepted employees may not indulge in such public expression of opinion as constitutes taking part in an organized political campaign. (See foregoing secs. 1 and 4.)

20. Activity at the polls and for candidates.—An employee has the right to vote as he pleases, and to exercise this right free from interference, solicitation, or dictation by any fellow employee or superior officer or any other person. It is a violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act to pay or offer to pay any person for voting or refraining from voting, or for voting for or against any candidate for Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, Congress. It is also a violation of the law to solicit, receive, or accept payment for one's vote or for withholding one's vote. (See U. S. Code, title 2, sec. 250.)

Under the act of August 2, 1939, it is a criminal offense for any person to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote as he may choose in any election of a national character. It is also a criminal offense to promise any employment, position, work or compensation, or other benefit made possible by an act of Congress, as a consideration, favor, or reward for political activity or for the support of or opposition to any political candidate or party. (See secs. 48 and 50 herein.)

It is the duty of an employee to avoid any offensive activity at primary and regular elections. He must refrain from soliciting votes, assisting voters to mark ballots, helping to get out the voters on registration and election days, acting as the accredited checker, watcher, or challenger of any party or faction, assisting in counting the vote, or engaging in any other activity at the polls except the marking and depositing of his own ballot. Rendering service, such as transporting voters to and from the polls and candidates on canvassing tours, whether for pay or gratuitously, is held to be within the scope of political activities pro-

hibited by the rule, even if such service is performed without regard to political party.

21. Election officers.—Service as judge of election, inspector, checker, teller, or as election officer of any kind is prohibited.

[fol. 127] 22. Newspapers—publication of letters or articles.—A classified employee may not publish or be connected editorially or managerially with any political newspaper, and may not write for publication or publish any letter or article, signed or unsigned, in favor of or against any political party, candidate, faction, or measure. An employee who writes such a letter or article is responsible for any use that may be made of it whether or not he gives consent to such use. (See secs. 4 and 19.)

23. Liquor question.—Activity in campaigns concerning the regulation or suppression of the liquor traffic is prohibited. An employee may be a member but not an officer of a club, league, or other organization which takes part in such a campaign. The dissemination of temperance propaganda is permissible, but any endeavor for or against the regulation, control, or suppression of the liquor traffic through political agencies is prohibited.

24. Betting or wagering on elections.—Betting or wagering upon the results of primary and general elections is penalized by the laws of most States and is improper political activity.

25. Activity in civic organizations and citizens' associations.—Activity in organizations having for their primary object the promotion of good government or the local civic welfare is not prohibited by the act of August 2, 1939, or civil-service rule I, provided such activities have no connection with the campaigns of particular candidates or parties.

26. Parades.—An employee may not march in a political parade, organize, or be an officer or leader of such a parade.

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<sup>4</sup> Appointment is made by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate to postmaster positions of the first, second, and third classes, but these positions are in the competitive classified service under the act of June 25, 1938.

A government employee may not take part in the activities of a musical organization in any parade or other activity of a political party.

27. Signing petitions.—The first amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” Section 6 of the act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. 555), provides that “the right of persons employed in the civil service of the United States, either individually or collectively, to petition Congress, or any Member thereof, or to furnish information to either House of Congress, or to any committee or Member thereof, shall not be denied or interfered with.”

The right guaranteed by the Constitution and the statute extends only to petitions addressed to the Government, or to Congress or Members thereof. It does not extend to petitions addressed to State, county, or municipal governments, or to other political units. A classified employee is permitted to sign petitions of the latter class *as an individual*, without reference to his connection with the Government, but he may not initiate them, circulate them, or canvass for the signatures of others.

[fol. 128] 28. Applying for Presidential positions not in the classified service.<sup>4</sup>—When a classified employee seeks promotion by appointment or transfer to a Presidential office not in the classified service there is no objection to his becoming a candidate for such an office, provided the consent of his department is obtained, and provided he does not violate section 1 of rule I, prohibiting the use of his official authority or influence in political matters, and provided further that he does not neglect his duty and avoids any action that would cause public scandal or semblance of coercion of his fellow employees or of those over whom he desires to be placed in the position he seeks.

A classified employee may circulate a petition or seek endorsements for his own appointment to a Presidential position, subject to the qualifications above stated, and he may, as an individual, sign a petition or recommend an-

<sup>4</sup> See footnote on opposite page.

other person for such an appointment; but he may not circulate a petition or solicit endorsements, recommendations, or support for the appointment of another person to such a position, whether such other person is a fellow employee or one not at the time in the Government service.

When an unofficial primary or election is held for the purpose of determining the popular choice for the Presidential office, a classified employee may permit his name to appear upon the ticket, but he may not solicit votes in his behalf at such a primary or election, or in any manner violate section 1 of rule I. He may vote and express privately his opinions, but may not solicit votes or publicly advocate the candidacy or election of himself or any other person. Although it is permissible for a classified employee, *as an individual*, to sign a petition or recommend another person for appointment to a non-classified position, he is not permitted to sign such a petition as a Government employee or in any other way to use his official authority or influence to advance the candidacy of any person for election or appointment to any office. Classified employees are permitted to exercise the right as individuals to sign a petition favoring a candidate for any office, but they may not do so as Government employees or as a group or association of Government employees.

29. Other forms of political activity.—Among other forms of political activity which are prohibited are the distribution of campaign literature, badges or buttons, and assuming general political leadership or becoming prominently identified with any political movement, party, or faction, or with the success or failure of any candidate for election to public office.

#### IV. Candidacy For or Holding Local Office—Classified and Nonclassified Employees

30. Candidacy for local office.—Candidacy for a nomination or for election to any national, State, county, or municipal office is not permissible. The prohibition against political activity extends not merely to formal announcement of candidacy but also to the preliminaries leading to such announcement and to canvassing or soliciting support or doing or permitting to be done any act in furtherance of candidacy. The fact that candidacy is merely passive is immaterial; if an employee acquiesces in the efforts of



[fol. 129] friends in furtherance of such candidacy such acquiescence constitutes an infraction of the prohibitions against political activity.

31. Federal employees holding local office.<sup>5</sup>—Persons holding Federal civil office by appointment, whether in the competitive classified service or not, are prohibited from accepting or holding any office under a State, Territorial, or municipal government by an Executive order of January 17, 1873, which is as follows:

Whereas it has been brought to the notice of the President of the United States that many persons holding civil office by appointment from him or otherwise under the Constitution and laws of the United States while holding such Federal positions accept offices under the authority of the States and Territories in which they reside, or of municipal corporations, under the charters and ordinances of such corporations, thereby assuming the duties of the State, Territorial, or municipal office at the same time that they are charged with the duties of the civil office held under Federal authority:

And whereas it is believed that, with but few exceptions, the holding of two such offices by the same person is incompatible with a due and faithful discharge of the duties of either office; that it frequently gives rise to great inconvenience, and often results in detriment to the public service; and, moreover, is not in harmony with the genius of the Government:

In view of the premises, therefore, the President has deemed it proper thus and hereby to give public notice that, from and after the 4th day of March, A. D. 1873 (except as herein specified), persons holding any Federal civil office by appointment under the Constitution and laws of the United States will be expected, while holding such office, not to accept or hold any office under any State or Territorial government, or under the charter or ordinances of any municipal corporation; and, further, that the acceptance or continued holding of any such State, Territorial, or municipal office, whether elective or by appointment, by any person holding civil office as aforesaid under the Government of the United States, other than judicial offices under the Constitution of the United States, will be deemed

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<sup>5</sup> See sec. 35.

a vacation of the Federal office held by such person, and will be taken to be and will be treated as a resignation by such Federal officer of his commission or appointment in the service of the United States.

The offices of justices of the peace, of notaries public, and of commissioners to take the acknowledgment of deeds, of bail, or to administer oaths, shall not be deemed within the purview of this order and are excepted from its operation, and may be held by Federal officers.

The appointment of deputy marshals of the United States may be conferred upon sheriffs or deputy sheriffs. Any deputy postmasters, the emoluments of whose office do not exceed \$600 per annum, are also excepted from the operation of this order and may accept and hold appointments under State, Territorial, or municipal authority, provided the same be found not to interfere with the discharge of their duties as postmasters.<sup>6</sup> Heads of departments and other officers of the Government who have the appointment of subordinate officers are required to take notice of this order, and to see to the enforcement of its provisions and terms within the sphere of their respective departments or offices and as relates to the several persons holding appointments under them, respectively.<sup>7</sup>

[fol. 130] 32. Interpretation of the order of January 17, 1873.—An Executive order of January 28, 1873, as amended by Executive order of August 27, 1933, is as follows:

Inquiries having been made from various quarters as to the application of the Executive order issued on the 17th of January relating to the holding of State or municipal offices by persons holding civil offices under the Federal Government, the President directs the following reply to be made:

It has been asked whether the order prohibits a Federal officer from holding also the office of an alderman or of a common councilman in a city, or of a town councilman of a town or village, or of appointments under city, town, or village governments. By some it has been suggested that

<sup>6</sup> See sec. 8.

<sup>7</sup> A Federal employee who resigns at the expiration of his accrued leave may accept a State or municipal position after his last day of active Federal service (16 Comp. Gen. 776, Feb. 19, 1937).

there may be distinction made in case the office be with or without salary or compensation. The city or town offices of the description referred to, by whatever names they may be locally known, whether held by election or by appointment, and whether with or without salary or compensation, are of the class which the Executive order intends not to be held by persons holding Federal offices.

It has been asked whether the order prohibits Federal officers from holding positions on boards of education, school committees, public libraries, religious or eleemosynary institutions incorporated or established or sustained by State or municipal authority. Positions and service on such boards and committees, and professorships in colleges<sup>8</sup> are not regarded as "offices" within the contemplation of the Executive order, but as employments or service in which all good citizens may be engaged without incompatibility and in many cases without necessary interference with any position which they may hold under the Federal Government. Officers of the Federal Government may therefore engage in such service, provided the attention required by such employment does not interfere with the regular and efficient discharge of the duties of their office under the Federal Government. The head of the department under whom the Federal office is held will in all cases be the sole judge whether or not the employment does thus interfere.

The question has also been asked with regard to officers of the State militia. Congress having exercised the power conferred by the Constitution to provide for organizing the militia, which is liable to be called forth to be employed in the service of the United States, and is thus, in some sense, under the control of the General Government, and is, moreover, of the greatest value to the public, the Executive order of the 17th January is not considered as prohibiting Federal officers from being officers in the militia in the States and Territories.

It has been asked whether the order prohibits persons holding office under the Federal Government being members of local or municipal fire departments, also whether it

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<sup>8</sup> Includes assistant professorships in a State college, assistant lectureships in an evening school of a municipal university, instructorships in a State college, and similar positions in State and municipal colleges and universities (minute of Commission, August 7, 1937).

applies to mechanics employed by the day in the armories, arsenals, and navy yards, etc., of the United States. Unpaid service in local or municipal fire departments is not regarded as an office within the intent of the Executive order, and may be performed by Federal officers, provided it does not interfere with the regular and efficient discharge of the duties of the Federal office, of which the head of the department under which the office is held will in each case be the judge.

Mechanics and laborers employed by the day in armories, arsenals, navy yards, etc., and master workmen and others who hold appointments from the Government or from any department, whether for a fixed time or at the pleasure of [fol. 131] the appointing power, are embraced within the operation of the order.

33. Eligibles holding local office.—Eligibles who are holding a local office not excepted from the prohibitions of the order of January 17, 1873, on selection for and acceptance of any position in the competitive classified service or of unclassified laborer must immediately resign the local office. Such resignation must be effected whether the service in the local office is compensated or uncompensated or whether the employee is on active duty or leave without pay. The holding of a local office is not excepted from the prohibitions of the order of January 17, 1873, is an absolute disqualification for appointment, and unless persons otherwise eligible for appointment are willing immediately to resign the local office in the event of selection for appointment, their appointments cannot be approved.

34. Minor local offices which may be held by Government officers and employees.—Although the Executive orders of January 17 and January 28, 1873, prohibit generally any person holding Federal civil office by appointment, from accepting or holding an office under a State, Territorial, or municipal government, certain offices of a minor character are excepted from this general prohibition. Among these are positions of justice of the peace; notary public; commissioner to take acknowledgment of deeds, of bail, or to administer oaths; positions on boards of education, school committees, public libraries, and in religious or eleemosynary institutions. In addition, Federal employees are, under certain conditions, permitted to hold other local offices under authority of the Executive orders set forth in

section 35. The permission to hold local offices granted by these Executive orders, however, is now subject to the general prohibition of section 9 of the act of August 2, 1939 (see sec. 1), against participation in political management and in political campaigns by Federal employees.

In view of the broad language of section 9 of the act of August 2, 1939, the incumbency by a Federal employee of any *elective* office whatever under a State, Territorial, or municipal government is prohibited, regardless of whether or not the office is of such character that its incumbency was permitted by Executive order prior to the enactment of the act. The incumbency by a Federal employee of an appointive office under a State, Territorial, or municipal government is permissible, provided such incumbency is specifically authorized by some statute or Executive order. In securing such offices, however, and in the discharge of the duties thereof, Federal employees must not engage in political management.

35. Special exceptions to the order of January 17, 1873.—The following Executive orders contain special exceptions to the general prohibition of the Executive orders of January 17 and January 28, 1873. The authority conferred by these orders is now subject to the general restriction contained in the act of August 2, 1939, against participation in political management and in political campaigns. (See sec. 34, above.)

Employees on Indian reservations may be appointed under State authority as deputy sheriffs or constables, as [fol.132] the requirements of the service demand. The reason for this action is that on all reservations which have been allotted and opened for settlement conditions arise wherein the Federal Government has sole jurisdiction over certain offenses and the State has jurisdiction over other offenses, and if the joint authority of a Federal and State officer can be merged in one person, a serious difficulty in the administration of justice is removed.

There is no objection to the holding of a low-salaried position in a municipal fire department.

Under Executive orders certain other exceptions have been made, as indicated below:

Employees of the Department of Agriculture.—Officers and employees of the Department of Agriculture are authorized to hold State and Territorial positions when such

action is deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture to secure a more efficient administration (Executive order of June 26, 1907).

Collectors of cotton statistics, Bureau of the Census.—State and county officials may be appointed special agents under the Bureau of the Census for the collection of cotton statistics (Executive order of August 4, 1909).

Moderators of town meetings.—The temporary office of moderator of a town meeting and offices of a like character are excepted from the operation of the order of January 17, 1873 (Executive order of August 24, 1912).

Employees of the Reclamation Service and the National Park Service.—Employees of the Reclamation Service and the National Park Service may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, accept appointments as deputy State fish or game wardens, if no compensation is attached to the position (Executive order of July 9, 1914).

Lighthouse Service—Laborers.—Laborers in charge of lights in the Lighthouse Service are excepted from the operation of the order of January 17, 1873 (Executive order of October 6, 1915).<sup>9</sup>

Special agents, Department of Labor.—Persons holding State, Territorial, or municipal positions may be appointed as special agents when such action is deemed necessary by the Secretary of Labor to secure a more efficient administration of any law coming within the purview of the Department of Labor (Executive order of January 2, 1923).

Employees of the Veterans' Administration.—Officers and employees of the United States Veterans' Administration serving in a medical capacity and on a part-time basis may with the consent of the Administrator hold State, county, or municipal positions in which employed in a medical capacity. Officers and employees of the United States Veteran's Administration may with the consent of the Administrator accept appointments under State, county, or municipal authority as deputy sheriffs (Executive order of August 6, 1924).

Employees of the Alaska Railroad.—Employees of the Alaska Railroad, permanently residing in municipalities on the line of the railroad, are permitted to become candidates

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<sup>9</sup> The Lighthouse Service has been consolidated with the Coast Guard, Treasury Department.

for and hold municipal office therein (Executive order of October 22, 1926).

Appointments in the Department of Commerce.—Persons holding State, Territorial, or municipal positions may receive, unless prohibited by law, appointments under the Department of Commerce when the Secretary of that Department deems such employment necessary to secure more efficient administration of the duties of his department (Executive order of July 3, 1931).

Officers of the Public Health Service.—Officers of the Public Health Service are permitted, upon recommendation of the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, and the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, to hold office in State, Territorial, or local health organizations, in order to cooperate with and aid State, Territorial, or local health departments; and State, Territorial, or local health officials or employees are permitted, unless prohibited by law, to hold office in the Public Health Service when the Surgeon General and the Secretary of the Treasury deem such employment necessary to secure a more efficient administration of the duties imposed upon the Public Health Service (Executive order of August 31, 1931).

[fol. 133] Offices under municipalities of the Virgin Islands.—Membership in the Colonial Council of the Municipality of St. Thomas and St. John, or in the Colonial Council of the Municipality of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, being unremunerative positions, shall not be deemed disqualification for employment in the Federal service of the Virgin Islands, notwithstanding the Executive order of January 17, 1873, provided it does not interfere with the efficient discharge of the duties of the Federal position, of which the head of the department under which the position is held will be the judge (Executive order of February 27, 1933).

Employees of the National Park Service.—Employees of the National Park Service are permitted, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, to accept appointments as deputy sheriffs under the laws of the States or Territories in which such employees may be on duty: *Provided*, That their services as such deputy sheriffs shall be without compensation and shall not in any manner interfere or conflict with the performance of their duties as employees of the National Park Service (Executive order of April 3, 1936).

Medical officers, Indian Service.—Officers and employees of the Indian Service, Department of the Interior, serving

in a medical or sanitary capacity, either on a part-time or full-time basis, may hold, with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior, State, county, or municipal positions of a similar character; *Provided*, That such services shall not in any manner interfere or conflict with the performance of their duties as officers or employees of the Indian Service: *And provided further*, That there shall be no additional compensation when the Federal office or employee is carried on a full-time basis (Executive order of May 13, 1936).

District advisers in the Interior Department under the act of June 28, 1934.—State, county, or municipal officers, when duly elected by qualified voters of a grazing district, may be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to serve as district adviser under the act of June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1269), as amended by the act of July 14, 1939 (Public, No. 173, 76th Cong.), for intermittent duty, when the Secretary of the Interior deems such services necessary in the interest of grazing on public lands (Executive order of June 17, 1937).

Immigration inspector, Department of Labor, Virgin Islands.—Officers and employees of the Municipalities of St. Thomas and St. John or of the Municipality of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, may be appointed to the position of immigration inspector for the Virgin Islands (Executive order of November 6, 1937).

Employees of the Interior Department.—Officers and employees of the Interior Department, upon approval of the Secretary of the Interior, may hold office under State, Territorial, and municipal governments engaged in cooperative and related work with the Department, provided that the services to be performed pertain to such work and do not interfere with the performance of the Federal duties. State, Territorial, and municipal employees engaged in cooperative and related work with the Interior Department may be appointed in the Department of the Interior when the Secretary deems such employment necessary to secure more efficient administration of said work. Appointments of such officers and employees to positions subject to the civil-service laws must be made in accordance with such laws (Executive order of January 21, 1938).

Employees of the United States Marshal for the Virgin Islands.—Any officer or employee of the police or prison departments of the Territorial and municipal governments of the Virgin Islands may be appointed to the position of



deputy or any other position in the office of the United States Marshal for the Virgin Islands (Executive order of May 24, 1938).

Employees of the Division of Grazing, Department of the Interior.—Employees of the Division of Grazing of the [fol. 134] Department of the Interior, with the approval of the Secretary, may accept appointment as deputy fire warden, deputy fish warden, or deputy game warden under the States in which such employees may be on duty, provided that their services in the State position are without compensation and do not interfere with the performance of the duties of the Federal position (Executive order of August 4, 1938).

Utilization of services of State and local officers.—The heads of a number of Federal agencies are authorized by specific statutes to employ the services of State and local officers.

Employees residing in municipalities near the District of Columbia.—Special permission has been granted to employees residing in municipalities near the District of Columbia to hold local municipal office by the Executive order of February 14, 1912, which is quoted in the paragraphs below. The scope of this permission has been restricted by the act of August 2, 1939, which prohibits participation in political management or political campaigns. The permission granted by the Executive order of February 14, 1912, must therefore be exercised subject to the provisions of the act of August 2, 1939. (See sec. 34 above.)

Employees of the executive civil service permanently residing in the following incorporated municipalities adjacent to the District of Columbia will not be prohibited from becoming candidates for or holding municipal office in such corporations:

In Maryland—Takoma Park, Kensington, Garrett Park, Chevy Chase, Glen Echo, Hyattsville, Mount Rainier, Somerset,<sup>10</sup> North Beach,<sup>11</sup> Capitol Heights,<sup>12</sup> Laurel,<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Executive order, May 5, 1914.

<sup>11</sup> Executive order, May 26, 1914.

<sup>12</sup> Executive order, February 23, 1916.

<sup>13</sup> Executive order, March 9, 1918.

Riverdale,<sup>14</sup> Bladensburg,<sup>15</sup> Brentwood,<sup>16</sup> Berwyn Heights,<sup>17</sup> Cottage City,<sup>18</sup> North Brentwood,<sup>19</sup> Edmonston,<sup>20</sup> Colmar Manor,<sup>21</sup> Fairmount Heights,<sup>22</sup> Eagle Harbor,<sup>23</sup> Cobb Island,<sup>24</sup> Seat Pleasant,<sup>25</sup> Cheverly,<sup>26</sup> District Heights,<sup>27</sup> Greenbelt.<sup>28</sup>

In Virginia—Clifton Station,<sup>29</sup> Falls Church, Vienna, Herndon, Potomac.<sup>30</sup>

In the exercise of the privilege granted by this order, officers and employees must not neglect their official duties and must not engage in national, State, or county political activity in violation of the civil-service rules, and if there is such violation the head of the department or independent office in which the person is employed shall inflict such punishment as the Civil Service Commission shall recommend.

[fol. 135] The Civil Service Commission may extend the privilege of this order to other incorporated municipalities in Maryland and Virginia when it shall deem it necessary to the domestic interests of the Government employees resident therein.<sup>31</sup> (Executive order of February 14, 1912, as amended.)

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<sup>14</sup> Executive order, November 25, 1920.

<sup>15</sup> Executive order, April 29, 1922.

<sup>16</sup> Executive order, June 7, 1923.

<sup>17</sup> Executive order, May 19, 1924.

<sup>18</sup> Executive order, July 12, 1924.

<sup>19</sup> Minute of the Commission, July 18, 1924.

<sup>20</sup> Minute of the Commission, September 2, 1924.

<sup>21</sup> Minute of the Commission, June 6, 1927.

<sup>22</sup> Minute of the Commission, June 15, 1927.

<sup>23</sup> Minute of the Commission, August 6, 1929.

<sup>24</sup> Minute of the Commission, May 29, 1930.

<sup>25</sup> Minute of the Commission, July 17, 1931.

<sup>26</sup> Minute of the Commission, April 24, 1931.

<sup>27</sup> Minute of the Commission, May 18, 1936.

<sup>28</sup> Minute of the Commission, November 29, 1937.

<sup>29</sup> Minute of the Commission, December 21, 1937.

<sup>30</sup> As amended by Executive order, December 24, 1921. Potomac, Va., has been annexed to the city of Alexandria, Va., and the authority granted by the order is revoked.

<sup>31</sup> Executive order, July 12, 1924.

NOTE.—The exception made in this case to section 1 of rule I and the Executive order of January 17, 1873, does not extend to municipalities other than those specifically named.

Employees of navy yards, arsenals, and military establishments.—Special permission has been granted to employees of navy yards, arsenals, and military establishments to hold local and municipal office by the Executive order of May 14, 1909, as amended by Executive order of August 27, 1919, which is quoted in the following paragraph. The scope of this permission has been restricted by the act of August 2, 1939, which prohibits participation in political management or political campaigns. The permission granted by the Executive orders must therefore be exercised subject to the provisions of the act of August 2, 1939. (See section 34 above.)

Whenever in the opinion of the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of War a strict enforcement of the provisions of section 1, rule I, of the civil-service rules would influence the result of a local election the issue of which materially affects the local welfare of the Government employees in the vicinity of any navy yard or station or of any arsenal or other military establishment, the Civil Service Commission may, on recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy or the Secretary of War, and after such investigation as it may deem necessary, permit the active participation<sup>32</sup> of the employees of the yard, station, arsenal, or other military establishment in such local election. In the exercise of the privilege which may be conferred hereunder, persons affected must not neglect their official duties nor cause public scandal by their activity (Executive order of May 14, 1909, as amended by Executive order of August 27, 1919).

NOTE.—It is not the practice of the War and Navy Departments to recommend, or of the Commission to grant, under this order permission to bosses or head men, by whatever designation known, or to any person whose recommendations have, by regulation, any influence upon the employment, promotion, laying off, or discharge of other em-

<sup>32</sup> Participation in political management and in political campaigns is now prohibited by the act of August 2, 1939. (See sec. 34, above.)

ployees, to hold local office. Prior permission must be obtained to hold local office under the order. The order applies solely to local municipal offices. The order does not apply to localities where the proportion of Government employees to the total population is negligible.

Employees residing in Arlington County, Va.—Special permission has been granted to employees residing in Arlington County, Va., to hold local municipal office by the Executive order of May 20, 1931, which is quoted in the following paragraph. The scope of this permission has been restricted by the act of August 2, 1939, which prohibits participation in political management or political campaigns. The permission granted by the Executive order of May 20, 1931, must therefore be exercised subject to the provisions of the act of August 2, 1939. (See sec. 34 above.)

Officers and employees of the executive civil service permanently residing in Arlington County, Va., may become candidates for<sup>32</sup> and hold local office in such county and may participate in campaigns for election to such offices.<sup>32</sup>

In the exercise of the privilege granted by this order, officers and employees must not neglect their official duties and must not engage in National or State politics in violation of the civil-service rules.<sup>32</sup> If there is such violation, the head of the department or independent office in which the person is employed shall inflict such punishment as the Civil Service Commission shall recommend.

Officers and employees elected<sup>32</sup> or appointed to offices requiring full-time service shall resign their positions with the Federal Government. If elected<sup>32</sup> or appointed to offices requiring only part-time service, they may accept and hold same without relinquishing their Federal employment, provided the holding of such part-time office does not conflict or interfere with their official duties as officers or employees of the Federal Government.

This order is based upon the facts that Arlington County is substantially a municipality, that a considerable number of the residents and taxpayers are employed in the Govern-

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<sup>32</sup> Participation in political management and in political campaigns is now prohibited by the act of August 2, 1939. (See sec. 34, above.)