

Sec. 4894. R. S. (U. S. C., title 35, sec. 37. All applications for patents shall be completed and prepared for examination within six months after the filing of the application, and in default thereof, or upon failure of the applicant to prosecute the same within six months or such shorter time, not less than thirty days or any extensions thereof, as shall be fixed by the Commissioner of Patents in writing to the applicant after any action therein, of which notice shall have been given to the applicant, they shall be regarded as abandoned by the parties thereto, unless it be shown to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Patents that such delay was unavoidable: *Provided, however,* That no application shall be regarded as abandoned which has become the property of the Government of the United States and with respect to which the head of any department of the Government shall have certified to the Commissioner of Patents, within a period of three years, that the invention disclosed therein is important to the armament or defense of the United States: *Provided, further,* That within ninety days, and not less than thirty days, before the expiration of any such three-year period the Commissioner of Patents shall, in writing, notify the head of the department interested in any pending application for patent, of the approaching expiration of the three-year period within which any application for patent shall have been pending.

*Act of Mar. 2, 1927, 44 Stat. 1337:*

SEC. 14. (U. S. C., title 35, sec. 21.) Where the day, or the last day, fixed by statute for taking any action or paying any fee in the United States Patent Office falls on Sunday, or on a holiday within the District of Columbia, the action may be taken, or the fee paid, on the next succeeding secular or business day.

*Act of Apr. 11, 1920, 46 Stat. 156:*

SEC. 6. (U. S. C., title 35, sec. 23.) The Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to annually destroy or otherwise dispose of all the files and papers belonging to all abandoned applications which have been on file for more than twenty years.

SEC. 4395. R.S. (U. S. C., title 35, sec. 44.) Patents may be granted and issued or reissued to the assignee of the inventor or discoverer; but the assignment must first be entered of record in the Patent Office. And in all

Abandonment of application by failure to complete or prosecute within time allowed. As amended by act of Aug. 7, 1939, 53 Stat. 1264.

Government applications.

Time for action expiring on Sunday or holiday.

Abandoned applications destroyed after twenty years.

Patents granted to assignee. Amended by Act of Mar. 3, 1875, 16 Stat. 583.