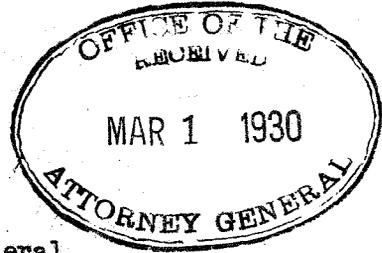


## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SWR-ENB

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 28, 1930.

Memorandum for the Attorney General

With respect to the so-called Title Division which was incorporated in my Division on February 1st, I desire to make the following report:

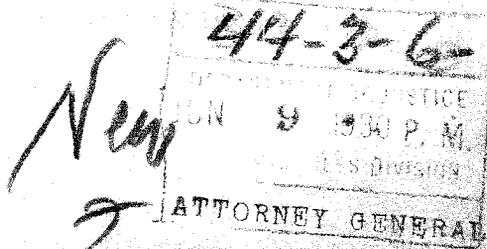
(1) So far as the Title Division proper is concerned, I had a tabulation made of all of the matters and all accounts pending in the Department. The same aggregate 442 in number on February 1st. I have arranged for a monthly re-check of this list to show what items have been closed, what progress has been made in other items and what items have not been changed. This process will be repeated on the first of each month for the purpose of establishing a complete check of the business of the Division.

I find there are enough attorneys in the Division to take care of the work and no additional help will be necessary. There are one or two men in the Division who are doing more than their share of work, and one or two who are doing less. In due time I should like to have that situation reflected into the respective increase and decrease of salary.

(2) With respect to the District title matters, Mr. Allen has complete charge of all title examinations of District property. His indisposition which has existed for some time seems to be definitely at an end and he advises me that he will have no difficulty in carrying on in the future. I think he is a competent man, if he continues to function, and he has been given to understand that he must so continue.

Allen is the contact man for Glassie's force. Glassie has two stenographers and one young attorney, Mr. Frank, who is doing detail pleading and other work. Glassie should have under him two competent trial men at least, and it is possible that in order to afford a proper contact at all times with the United States Attorney's office and the Court House there ought to be also attached to Glassie's office one Assistant United States Attorney. At present Mr.

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Lambert who is an assistant to Mr. Rover, is assisting and giving his full time to the work. If he continues to give full time I think it would be advisable to have him appointed a Special Assistant to the United States Attorney or a Special Assistant to the Attorney General so that he can receive an increase in pay beyond the \$2600 which he is now receiving as an assistant. It would be inadvisable to increase his pay as Assistant United States Attorney because that would disrupt Rover's organization on the basis of salaries.

At present Glassie is sick and such information as I can get indicates that he will be beyond contact for two or three weeks any way. In the meantime I have made an arrangement with Mr. Youngquist whereby Mr. Mitchell is temporarily assigned from Mr. Youngquist's division to my division to assist in carrying on the District condemnation work. Mitchell is making a full examination of the situation and in connection with Mr. Lambert will carry on all pending condemnations until Glassie gets in shape so that I can secure his recommendation in connection with the proposed two new men who are to assist him.

An examination of the file discloses that there are only two condemnation cases now pending before the court which will require a court and jury, and as only one Judge can be assigned these two cases will occupy that judge for at least another month. There are some motions for new trials which have been set down for a day certain and will be properly attended to. The Treasury Department has advised me that the two cases which are now being carried on will when completed leave matters in satisfactory condition under their program for at least two or three months, or possibly longer. The result is that we will be able to carry on during Glassie's indisposition without any delay to any project and as soon as Glassie gets in shape we will be able to get ahead as rapidly as the number of available judges will permit.

(3) I have had an examination made of the so-called Water-Front cases. I find there are some six cases filed during 1912 and 1913 which are still undisposed of. Of these cases one case is now being actively tried, one case should be immediately pressed and the other cases can probably be brought to a conclusion by a little judicious pressure. Mr. Proctor is trying the one case now in process of trial and I have discussed with him the possibility of his getting the remaining five cases cleaned up and out of the way. He has called my attention to the fact that there will be various matters arising in connection with the Mt. Vernon Highway project and also in connection with the so-called Key Bridge area which will result in some litigation. Mr. Proctor is acting as a Special Assistant at \$6000 per year with the understanding that he

need only give a portion of his time to the work, his private business preventing his giving his full time. He has suggested that in order to carry on this work expeditiously there ought to be some one associated in the work with him, and he has suggested a Mr. Townsend, with whom he has had some business associations and whom he very highly recommends as a competent, industrious lawyer. He feels that if the entire Water Front assignment was given to him and Townsend it could be advantageously handled.

(4) As to recommendations, I have no recommendations to make with respect to the Title Division proper.

I think that two Special Assistants to the Attorney General should be appointed to assist Glassie, the salary of such Special Assistants to be not to exceed \$5500 per year. In addition thereto, if Mr. Glassie deems it advisable, I think Mr. Lambert should be detached from the United States Attorney's office and also assigned to the condemnation work at a salary of approximately \$4000.

On the Water Front cases it seems to me Proctor's idea is a good one, and that Townsend might be assigned to assist Proctor at a salary of not to exceed \$5000.

(5) Some definite attention ought to be given to the matter of assignment of a proper number of Judges in these condemnation cases. I am advised that it is not feasible to have a jury sit in a particular case more than two hours each day because the jurors resent giving up more of their time than that in view of the long-drawn-out proceedings. It might be possible to thus carry on two or more cases before one Judge by holding proceedings in the morning in one case and another case in the afternoon. However, not more than two cases could possibly be carried on if only one Judge is assigned and it is quite possible that in the future the requests for condemnations in the District will require the carrying on of more cases than that in order to get the business disposed of. Steps ought to be taken to see whether at least two Judges could not be assigned to this condemnation work so that four cases at least could be carried on at the same time.

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