

authorized to act for him, and said corporation counsel or his assistants shall file such information upon the presentation to him or his assistants of sworn information that the law has been violated; and such corporation counsel and his assistants shall have power to administer oaths to such informant or informants, and such others as present themselves, and anyone making a false oath to any material fact shall be deemed guilty of perjury and subject to the same penalties as now provided by law for such offense.

In Supreme Court.
By district attorney.

When, however, it appears to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia that it will be in the interest of more effective enforcement of the provisions of this Act, they may request the United States district attorney for the District of Columbia to prosecute persons charged with offenses against the law, and when so requested by said Commissioners the said district attorney shall proceed before the grand jury and in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to prosecute such offenders in manner now prescribed by law for the prosecution of persons charged with violations of the laws against crime in the District of Columbia.

Indictments.

Invalidity of any clause not to affect remainder of Act.

SEC. 23. That if for any reason any section, paragraph, provision, clause, or part of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, that fact shall not effect or destroy any other section, paragraph, provision, clause, or part of the Act not in and of itself invalid, but the remaining parts of sections shall be enforced without regard to that so invalidated.

Interpretation of words.

SEC. 24. That in the interpretation of this Act words of the singular number shall be deemed to include their plurals, and words of the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine, as the case may be.

Time of taking effect.

SEC. 25. That this Act shall be in full force and effect on and after the first day of November, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and all laws and parts of laws inconsistent herewith, be, and they are, hereby repealed. And that the excise board for the District of Columbia, provided for and established under the Act making appropriations to provide for the expenses of the government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and fourteen, be, and it is hereby, abolished upon the taking effect of this Act.

Inconsistent laws repealed.
Excise board abolished.
Vol. 37, p. 997.
Ante, p. 1006.

Approved, March 3, 1917.

March 3, 1917.
[S. 8307.]
[Public, No. 384.]

CHAP. 166.—An Act Authorizing the granting of patent to certain lands adjacent to the agricultural experimental station at Scottsbluff, Nebraska, to the regents of the University of the State of Nebraska for dry-land agricultural experimental purposes.

University of Nebraska.
Lands granted for dry-land experiment station at Scottsbluff.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue patent to the regents of the University of the State of Nebraska for dry-land agricultural experiments to the east half of section thirty and the west half of section twenty-nine, township twenty-four north, range fifty-five west; also the west half of the northeast quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter, section twenty-nine, township twenty-four north, range fifty-five west, sixth principal meridian, in the State of Nebraska: *Provided*, That in the event the lands above described cease to be needed or used for the purposes above mentioned the same shall revert to the Government of the United States.

Proviso.
Reversion for non-user.

Approved, March 3, 1917.