

Minimum Wage Board, etc., wholly from District revenues.

Trust funds employees from the funds.

Detailed report for first four months of fiscal year.

Chicago. Sale of lot to, for street purposes.

employees of the Minimum Wage Board, the community center department, and the playgrounds department, which shall be paid wholly out of the revenue of the District of Columbia.

So much as may be necessary to pay the increased compensation provided in this section to persons employed under trust funds who may be construed to be employees of the Government of the United States or of the District of Columbia is authorized to be paid, respectively, from such trust funds.

Reports shall be submitted to Congress on the first day of the next regular session showing for the first four months of the fiscal year the average number of employees in each department, bureau, office, or establishment receiving the increased compensation at the rate of \$240 per annum and the average number by grades receiving the same at each other rate.

SEC. 7. That in consideration of an ordinance passed by the City Council of the city of Chicago on February 4, 1921, giving to the United States the use and maintenance for twenty years from July 1, 1921, of certain premises in the city of Chicago for barge office quarters, upon terms and conditions therein set forth and payment to the United States of the appraised value of the land to be condemned, such value to be not less than \$25.50 per square foot, the city of Chicago is hereby authorized to acquire for street purposes by condemnation proceedings all interest of the United States in and to lot ten in block two in Fort Dearborn addition to Chicago, section ten, township thirty-nine north, range fourteen east of the third principal meridian, in the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois.

Approved, March 3, 1921.

March 3, 1921.

[H. R. 10074.]

[Public, No. 365.]

CHAP. 125.—An Act To enlarge the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia, and to regulate appeals from the judgments of said court, and for other purposes.

District of Columbia. Municipal court. Exclusive jurisdiction in civil cases, extended to \$1,000. Vol. 35, p. 623, amended.

Concurrent, with supreme court, abolished.

Jurisdiction in pending cases.

Made a court of record, etc.

Jury trials.

Authority of trial judge.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia shall have exclusive jurisdiction in the following civil cases in which the claimed value of personal property or the debt or damages claimed, exclusive of interest and costs, does not exceed \$1,000, namely, in the classes of cases over which the court had jurisdiction immediately prior to the passage of this Act, and in actions for the recovery of damages for assault, assault and battery, slander, libel, malicious prosecution, and breach of promise to marry. The concurrent jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in any such case and the right to remove such cases to said Supreme Court by the statutory writ of certiorari, are hereby abolished. Said Municipal Court shall also have jurisdiction of civil causes now pending in the Supreme Court which are of the classes and amounts over which the Municipal Court had jurisdiction immediately prior to the passage of this Act and also the actions pending in the Supreme Court over which the municipal court would have jurisdiction if brought under the provisions of this Act and which may be transferred to it for trial and disposition by order of said Supreme Court.

SEC. 2. That hereafter said Municipal Court shall be a court of record, shall have a seal, and shall have the same terms of court as those now obtaining, or as hereafter modified, in the circuit branches of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 3. That hereafter when the value in controversy in any action pending in said Municipal Court shall exceed \$20, and in all actions for the recovery of possession of real property, either party may demand a trial by jury. The trial judge shall conduct such jury trial and according to the practice and procedure now obtain-

ing, or as hereafter modified, in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and shall have the same power to instruct juries, set aside verdicts, arrest judgments and grant new trials as said Supreme Court.

SEC. 4. That jurors for said Municipal Court shall be drawn and selected under and in pursuance of the laws now obtaining, or as hereafter modified, concerning the drawing, selection, term of service and mode of filling deficiencies in a panel and shall be subject to the same duties and liabilities, and shall receive the same compensation as petit jurors in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, as fully as if such laws directly referred to said Municipal Court, excepting that in said Municipal Court there may be an additional term of service to begin on the first Tuesday in August of each year, and to terminate on the first Tuesday of October. Section 73 of the Code of Law of the District of Columbia, relating to bills of exceptions, shall apply to said Municipal Court as well as to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. At least ten days before the term of service of jurors shall begin, the clerk of the said Supreme Court shall certify to the said Municipal Court, for service as jurors for the then ensuing term, the names of not to exceed thirty-six persons, drawn as directed by law. Deficiencies in any panel of any such jury may be filled according to the law applicable to jurors in said Supreme Court, and for this purpose any judge of said Municipal Court shall possess all the powers of a judge of said Supreme Court and of said court sitting as a special term.

Selection of jurors, etc.

Additional term allowed.

Bills of exception. Vol. 31, p. 1201.

Drawing of jurors. *Ante*, p. 559.

Filling deficiencies.

Additional jurors or certificate of court.

Whenever the judges of the Municipal Court shall certify in writing that the business of said court requires the services of additional jurors and shall file a certificate to that effect in the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, said Supreme Court shall direct the clerk of the said Supreme Court to certify to said Municipal Court for service as jurors for the then ensuing terms the names of such number of other persons as may be necessary for such service, which names shall be drawn as directed by law.

SEC. 5. That if neither party shall demand a trial by jury, or if the value in controversy shall not exceed \$20, the case may be tried and determined by any judge of the court, and his finding upon the facts, which may be either general or special, shall have the same effect as a verdict of a jury, with the same right of either party to take an exception to any ruling of the court, and have the same embodied in a bill of exceptions, as in case of a jury trial.

Trials without jury.

SEC. 6. That all judgments hereafter entered by said Municipal Court shall remain in force for six years and no longer, unless the same shall have been docketed in the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia as provided by existing law, in which event they shall be liens as is provided by Chapter XXXVIII of the Code of Law for the District of Columbia for judgments of justices of the peace. No judgment shall become a lien upon any lands, tenements, or hereditaments until so docketed.

Judgments in force for six years.

To be a lien if docketed in supreme court. Vol. 31, p. 1331.

SEC. 7. That nonresidents of the District of Columbia may commence suits in said Municipal Court without first giving security for costs, but upon motion may be required to give such security in pursuance of section 175 of the Code of Law for the District of Columbia.

Suits of nonresidents. Security for costs.

Vol. 31, p. 1219.

SEC. 8. That upon satisfactory evidence being presented to the court or one of the judges thereof that the plaintiff in any suit is indigent and unable to make deposit of costs, such court or judge may, in its or his discretion, permit the prosecution of such suit without the prepayment or deposit of costs.

Poor suitors.

Return of replevined goods and paying money into court, provisions applicable.
Vol. 31, pp. 1422, 1418.

Attachment proceedings.
Vol. 31, p. 1258-1264;
Vol. 32, p. 530.

Deputy marshals for charge of jurors, etc.

Rules of practice, procedure, etc., to be prescribed.

Docket fees not applicable.
Vol. 31, p. 1363.

Appeals to supreme court, D. C., abolished.
Bills of exception allowed.

Petition to court of appeals.

Issue of writ of error from court of appeals.

Undertaking to be filed.

By defendant in action to recover real estate.

Submission to jurisdiction of municipal court.

Service of present judges.

SEC. 9. That section 1557 of the Code of Law for said District, governing the return to defendant of goods and chattels taken by virtue of the writ of replevin, and sections 1529, 1530, and 1531 of said Code of Law, authorizing payment of money into court in certain cases, are hereby made applicable to the said Municipal Court.

The provisions of the Code of Law for the District of Columbia relating to attachments shall apply to attachment proceedings in said Municipal Court.

SEC. 10. That the marshal of the United States in and for the District of Columbia shall designate two of his deputies to take charge of the jurors in the Municipal Court, under the direction of the trial judge, and they shall perform such other services as the judge may require.

SEC. 11. That the said Municipal Court, sitting in banc, shall have power to prescribe fees and costs, including the fee to be paid for a jury trial, to make rules of practice, pleading, and procedure, not inconsistent with law, and to modify and change the same from time to time, to insure the proper administration of justice. Section 1109 of the Code of Law for the District of Columbia relating to fees, shall not apply to said Municipal Court.

SEC. 12. That hereafter no appeal shall lie from the Municipal Court to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. If in any case in the Municipal Court an exception is taken by any party to any ruling or instruction of the court on matter of law the exception shall be reduced to writing and stated in a bill of exceptions with so much of the evidence as may be material to the question or questions raised, and such bill of exceptions shall be settled and signed by the judge within such time as may be prescribed by the rules of said court. Any party aggrieved by any final judgment of said court may seek a review thereof by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia by petition under oath setting forth concisely but clearly and distinctly the nature of the proceeding in said court, the trial and judgment therein and the particular ruling or instruction upon matter of law to which exception has been taken, said petition to be presented to any justice of the court of appeals within ten days after the entry of such judgment and with such notice to the opposite party as may be required by rules of said court of appeals. If the justice shall be of opinion that such judgment ought to be reviewed a writ of error shall be issued from the court of appeals to the Municipal Court which shall send to the court of appeals, within such time as may be prescribed by that court, a transcript of the record in the case sought to be reviewed; and the court of appeals shall review said record and affirm, reverse, or modify the judgment in accordance with law. Execution of such judgment shall be stayed if the party seeking the review shall within twenty days after the entry of the judgment file in the clerk's office of the Municipal Court an undertaking with surety and penal amount approved by a judge of the court, to abide by and pay the judgment and the costs of the review if such judgment shall not be reversed; and, when the defendant in an action to recover possession of real estate seeks such review, the undertaking shall also provide for the payment of all intervening damages to the property sought to be recovered and compensation for its use and occupation from the date of the judgment to the date of the satisfaction thereof if the judgment is not reversed; and in all such undertakings the principal and surety shall submit to the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court and consent to the entry of judgment against them in that court in respect of their undertaking.

SEC. 13. That each of the present judges of said Municipal Court shall serve until the expiration of his present commission and until

his successor is duly appointed and qualified. Each judge hereafter appointed shall serve for the term of four years and until his successor is duly appointed and qualified.

Term hereafter.

SEC. 14. That this Act shall take effect ninety days after its passage.

In effect in 90 days.

SEC. 15. That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall be construed to deprive the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia or the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia from reviewing and finally determining such cases as may be pending on appeal or certiorari at the time that this Act goes into effect: *Provided further*, That nothing herein shall be construed to deprive the said Municipal Court of any jurisdiction possessed by said court at the time of the passage of this Act: *Provided further*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to supersede or modify any of the provisions of Public resolution numbered 31, Sixty-fifth Congress, entitled "Joint resolution to prevent rent profiteering in the District of Columbia," approved May 31, 1918, nor of any provisions of Public law numbered 63, approved October 22, 1919, entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled, 'An Act to provide further for the national security and defense by encouraging the production, conserving the supply, and controlling the distribution of food products and fuel,' approved August 10, 1917, and to regulate rents in the District of Columbia."

Inconsistent laws repealed.
Provisos.
Review of pending cases.

No present jurisdiction affected.

Rent profiteering legislation not modified.

Vol. 40, p. 593.
Anc., p. 298.

Approved, March 3, 1921.

CHAP. 126.—An Act To extend temporarily the time for filing applications for letters patent, for taking actions in the United States Patent Office with respect thereto, for the reviving and reinstatement of applications for letters patent, and for other purposes.

March 3, 1921.
[H. R. 15662.]
[Public, No. 366.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the rights of priority provided by section 4887 of the Revised Statutes, for the filing of applications for patent for inventions and designs, which rights had not expired on the 1st day of August, 1914, or which rights have arisen since the 1st day of August, 1914, shall be, and the same are hereby, extended until the expiration of a period of six months from the passage of this Act in favor of the citizens of the United States or citizens or subjects of all countries which have extended, or which now extend, or which within said period of six months shall extend substantially reciprocal privileges to citizens of the United States, and such extension shall apply to applications upon which patents have been granted, as well as to applications now pending or filed within the period herein: *Provided*, That such extension shall in no way furnish a basis of claim against the Government of the United States: *Provided further*, That such extension shall in no way affect the right of any citizen of the United States, who, before the passage of this Act, was bona fide in possession of any rights in patents or applications for patent conflicting with rights in patents granted or validated by reason of such extension, to exercise such rights by itself or himself personally, or by such agents, or licensees, as derived their rights from it, or him, before the passage of this Act, and such persons shall not be amenable to any action for infringement of any patent granted or validated by reason of such extension.

Patents.
Rights of priority in filing applications abroad, extended for six months.
R. S., sec. 4887, p. 946.
Vol. 32, p. 1226.

Reciprocal privileges required.

Provisos.
No claim against the Government incurred.
Rights of citizens in bona fide possession of patents, etc., not affected.

A patent shall not be refused on an application coming within the provisions of this Act, nor shall a patent granted on such application be held invalid by reason of the invention having been patented or described in any printed publication or in public use or on sale in the United States prior to the filing of the application, unless such

Effect of prior publication, etc., modified.
Vol. 32, p. 1226.