

of the Attorney General of the United States, the recorder of deeds may from time to time fix the number and compensation of all other employees of his office: *Provided*, That any expenditure incurred by him in so doing shall not be a charge upon the Public Treasury, but shall be paid out of the fees and emoluments of said office: *And provided further*, That the employees of said office shall not be in excess of the number actually necessary for the proper conduct of said office of the recorder of deeds: *Provided, however*, That the compensation of the first deputy recorder of deeds and that of the second deputy recorder of deeds shall not be changed except by Act of Congress.

Provisos.
Compensation from receipts.

Number of employees.

Pay of first deputy.

Approved, March 3, 1925.

CHAP. 417.—An Act To amend, revise, and reenact subchapter 3, sections 546 and 547 of the Code of Law of the District of Columbia relating to the recording of deeds of chattels.

March 3, 1925.

[S. 1935.]

[Public No. 535.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 546 That no bill of sale, mortgage, or deed of trust to secure a debt of any personal chattels whereof the vendor, mortgagor, or donor shall remain in possession, shall be valid or effectual to pass the title therein, except as between the parties to such instruments and as to other persons having actual notice of it, unless the same be executed, acknowledged, and within ten days from the date of such acknowledgement filed in the office of the Recorder of Deeds and the said filing if such instrument therein as aforesaid as to third persons not having notice of it as aforesaid shall be operative only from the time within the said ten days when it is delivered to said recorder.

District of Columbia Code.

Chattel deeds of trust.

Valid only if filed with Recorder of Deeds within 10 days.

Vol. 31, p. 1275, amended.

And it shall not be necessary for the Recorder of Deeds to spread such instruments upon the records of his office, but the same shall be indexed in the manner as deeds to real estate are indexed, and said instruments shall be kept on file and shall be open to inspection by the public, and shall have the same force and legal effect as if they were actually recorded in the books of said office. For filing and indexing such aforesaid instruments the Recorder of Deeds shall collect \$1 each.

Indexing without recording allowed.

Fee.

SEC. 547. CONDITIONAL SALES.—No conditional sale of chattels in virtue of which the property is delivered to the purchaser, but by the terms of which the title is not to pass until the price of said chattels is fully paid, where the purchase price exceeds \$100, shall be valid as against third persons acquiring title to said property from said purchaser without notice of the terms of said sale, unless the terms of said sale are reduced to writing and signed by the parties thereto and acknowledged by the purchaser and filed in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, and said writing shall be indexed as if the purchaser were a mortgagor and the seller a mortgagee of such chattels, and shall be operative as to third persons without actual notice of it from the time of being filed. And for filing and indexing such an instrument, the Recorder of Deeds shall collect \$1. These Acts shall take effect thirty days after approval.

Conditional sales of property.

Valid against third parties only if terms of sale filed with Recorder of Deeds, etc.

Vol. 31, p. 1275, amended.

Fee.

Approved, March 3, 1925.