

1 Reproduced from the Report of the Attorney General for 1924, pp I-II)

(REPORT OF THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE.)

October 1-3, 1924

ADDENDA, RECOMMENDATIONS OF JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

I direct attention to recommendations adopted by the Judicial Conference of Senior Circuit Judges, held in Washington, D. C., October 1, 2, and 3, 1924, in accordance with section 2 of the act of Congress of September 14, 1922 (42 Stat. 837, 838):

FIRST—ADDITIONAL JUDGES

The conference renews its recommendation that provision be made for two new circuit judges in the Eighth Circuit, two new district judges in the Southern District of New York, and one new district judge in the Northern District of Georgia. The conference further recommends that a new district judge be provided in the Western District of New York, and a new district judge in the District of Maryland.

SECOND—PROHIBITION LAW ENFORCEMENT

The members of this conference are of the opinion, based on their experience in respect to the prosecution of offenses under the prohibition law, that it would make much for effectiveness in enforcing that law if the prohibition unit could be bodily transferred to the Department of Justice, and all the appropriations for such enforcement be expended under the direction of the Attorney General; that in this way the attempted prosecution of trivial, futile, and unimportant cases, which now crowd the dockets through the ill-advised zeal and practical ignorance of prohibition agents, can be avoided, and only those cases taken up and pressed which will really deter the principal offenders and in the preparation of which district attorneys will have a personal responsibility.

THIRD—BANKRUPTCY

The conference recommends to Congress that the bankruptcy Statutes be so amended that all judgments, decrees, orders, and proceedings in bankruptcy shall be reviewed by appeal only, and that to be speedily taken.

FOURTH—LIBRARIES FOR FEDERAL COURTS

Whereas a consideration of the condition of the law libraries provided and imperatively required for the use of the United States courts of appeals has disclosed the fact that no law library worthy

of the name has ever been provided for the use of the Circuit Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit, and none has ever been provided at Denver for the Circuit Court of Appeals of the Eighth Circuit where that court is required to hold a term annually, that many of the books in the libraries provided for the circuit courts of appeals have become so old and dilapidated that they must be repaired and rebound to keep them in use, and the purchase of the later volumes of sets of reports furnished and later textbooks is necessary to continue the usefulness of such reports and to perfect these libraries.

Whereas this condition of the libraries compels the judges to postpone decisions and opinions until law books necessary to assure correct conclusions can be borrowed and read, and hampers and delays the administration of justice in the Federal courts.

Resolved, That this judicial conference earnestly recommends to the President of the United States, the Attorney General, the Director of the Budget, and the Congress of the United States:

I. That the sum of \$2,500 be annually and specifically appropriated and paid to each of the clerks of each of the circuit courts of appeals to be expended by him as directed by the presiding judge of his court, to repair old books, purchase new ones, and to maintain and increase every library, and that because there are two libraries of equal size, one at St. Paul and one at St. Louis in the Eighth Circuit, \$5,000 be appropriated and paid annually to the clerk of the court of appeals of that circuit to maintain and increase those libraries.

II. That \$15,000 be appropriated and paid to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit to be expended as directed by the presiding judge of that circuit to purchase books, pamphlets, etc., and to establish a law library for that court in New York City.

III. That \$8,000 be appropriated and paid to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals of Eighth Circuit to be expended as directed by the presiding judge of that circuit to purchase the proper books and establish a law library for that court at Denver.