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March 1, 1929.
[H. R. 13957.]
[Public, No. 866.]

CHAP. 415.—An Act To repeal certain provisions of law relating to the Federal building at Des Moines, Iowa.

Des Moines, Iowa.
Sale of present Federal building at, repealed.
Vol. 37, p. 884, amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the last three paragraphs of section 20 of the Act entitled "An Act to increase the limit of cost of certain public buildings; to authorize the enlargement, extension, remodeling, or improvement of certain public buildings; to authorize the erection and completion of public buildings; to authorize the purchase of sites for public buildings; and for other purposes," approved March 4, 1913, as amended, are hereby repealed.

Approved, March 1, 1929.

March 1, 1929.
[H. R. 13461.]
[Public, No. 867.]

CHAP. 416.—An Act To provide for the acquisition of land in the District of Columbia for the use of the United States.

District of Columbia.
Heads of executive departments, etc., authorized to acquire real estate in, for public purpose, may acquire the same by condemnation in the name of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever the head of any executive department or independent bureau, or other officer of the United States, or any board or commission of the United States, hereinafter referred to as the acquiring authority, has been, or hereafter shall be, authorized by law to acquire real property in the District of Columbia for the construction of any public building or work, or for parks, parkways, public playgrounds, or any other public purpose, such acquiring authority shall be, and hereby is, authorized to acquire the same in the name of the United States by condemnation under judicial process whenever in the opinion of such acquiring authority it is necessary or advantageous so to do; and in every such case the Attorney General of the United States, upon the request of such acquiring authority, shall cause a proceeding in rem for such condemnation to be instituted in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, holding a special term as a district court of the United States, which court is hereby vested with jurisdiction of all such cases of condemnation with full power to hear and determine all issues of law and fact that may arise in the same.

Proceeding in rem to be instituted in District Supreme Court holding special term as a district court.

INSTITUTION OF PROCEEDINGS

Institution of proceedings.

SEC. 2. Every such condemnation proceeding shall be instituted by filing in said court a verified petition which shall contain or have annexed thereto the following:

Verified petition to be filed.
Contents.

(1) A statement of the authority under which and the public use for which the lands are to be acquired.

Authority for.

(2) A description of the lands to be acquired sufficient for the identification thereof. Where such lands, taken together, constitute all privately owned land in any square in the city of Washington it shall be sufficient to designate the same by the number of the square as the same appears on the records of squares in the office of the surveyor of the District of Columbia.

Description of lands.

(3) A plan showing the lands to be acquired.

Plan.

(4) The names of the owners of the lands to be acquired, so far as ascertainable by reasonable inquiry, and of the persons in actual and open possession of the same. If it shall appear from the land records of the District of Columbia that a right, title, interest, or estate in said lands was formerly vested in any person who is known, or may be presumed, to be deceased, which right, title, interest, or estate, if valid and subsisting, would be adverse to the person in present possession claiming to be owner of said lands, and the names

Names of owners, etc.