

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1972

Judge Assumes O'Hara's Duties

A judge from Clinton, La., today took over the duties of Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara, who is on sick leave.

Judge O'Hara reportedly is a patient at De Paul Hospital. A hospital spokesman refused to confirm or deny the report.

Assuming his duties in Section A is Judge William T. Bennett, judge of the 20th Judicial District, comprising the parishes of East and West Feliciana.

Judge Bennett said he agreed to take on the assignment as long as it does not conflict with his duties in his home district.

He met this morning with Assistant Dist. Atty. William

R. Ary and conferred about the section's current backlog and the nature of the cases awaiting trial.

A 1927 graduate of the Louisiana State University Law School, Judge Bennett is a retired Army Colonel, having served in World War II in Europe with the paratroops, and also in Korea.

A judge of the 20th Judicial District for the past six years, Judge Bennett handles all types of cases, including civil, criminal, juvenile, traffic and family court.

Judge Bennett's father, the late William H. Bennett, served as a state representative during the administration of Gov. Huey P. Long.



JUDGE WILLIAM T. BENNETT of the Twentieth Judicial District, who is sitting "ad hoc" in Criminal District Court, confers with Assistant District Attorney **WILLIAM R. ARY**. —States-Item photo.