

Supreme Court of the United States  
Washington, D. C.

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE FELIX FRANKFURTER

January 30, 1941

Dear Lincoln Bloomfield:

I do not think much of pursuing law while engaged in other full-time work. I am well aware of the fact that this can be done and eminence achieved in the law. I am simply suggesting that if a man wants to become a lawyer he had better become master of the history of law, of its philosophy and of its contemporary processes. In doing so, a three year course is none too long. Moreover, for reasons over which I need not labor, possibly no training equips one so well for public service in America as does hard training in the law. I therefore suggest that if you can at all manage to get a first-rate legal training, do it and on the basis of that enter the public service. No doubt the times in which we live make one restless and further schooling is possibly irksome. But the time to get your training is when you are young. The world neither began yesterday nor is it likely to end tomorrow. The one capital that is indestructible is professional knowledge such as the law affords with the opportunity that it gives in the most varied directions.

With warm good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Esq.

*Felix Frankfurter*