

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION

WASHINGTON

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION  
AND REFER TO

July 25, 1928.

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*Gen* (10)

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Commissioner General of Immigration,  
Washington, D. C.

*Lansley*  
*see me*  
*re this matter*  
*gpp*

The writer has given considerable thought to to the position of Motor Mechanic in the Patrol Service with the idea of establishing a really definite policy as to such appointments in the future. The savings accomplished in sub districts where motor mechanics are now employed surely justify their use in all.

At the present time regulations provide an equal salary for motor mechanics and patrol inspectors, but, under the existing system an employee entering the service as a motor mechanic can advance no farther than the highest salaried grade of patrol inspector.

It occurs to the writer that, in order to induce qualified motor mechanics to enter this service, the initial salary must be made more attractive. Also, as a further incentive, additional compensation should be allowed mechanics of exceptional ability who are serving at points of special importance as regards this particular line of work.

To accomplish the desired result the required examination should be very thorough and during the probationary period of such employees great care should be exercised to prevent the service from becoming merely a training school.

The present policy of employing both bona fide motor mechanics and patrol inspectors, designated as such, for this important work is far from satisfactory and leads to considerable confusion in the matter of transfers, replacements etc. Such designations were originally authorized in order to utilize the services of patrol inspectors possessing some mechanical ability and to permit payment of salaries to men performing mechanical work in a sum equal to those of patrol officers of the lower grades.

It is suggested that were the initial salary for motor mechanics to be made \$2000.00 per annum, coupled with the many well known advantages of Government Civil Service positions, many expert mechanics would be attracted to the service, who now prefer commercial employment because of the higher wage.

The above suggestions are respectfully offered for your consideration.

*Ruel E. Davenport*  
Ruel E. Davenport, Supervisor  
Border Patrol