

# Frank B. Clayton Is Found Dead In His Office

## Believe Heart Attack Cause of Death

Frank B. Clayton, prominent attorney, was found dead early today in his office in the First National building. He was 49.

He apparently died of a heart attack last night as he was gathering documents in preparation for a flying trip to Denver.

He was stricken by a severe heart ailment several years ago.

Mr. Clayton was chief counsel for the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, a post he had held for the last 10 years.



Last night he went to his office, Commissioner L. M. Lawson said, to get ready for a trip. He was scheduled to meet with Bureau of Reclamation officials to discuss important changes in the great Falcon dam on the Lower Rio Grande.

He also planned to visit his daughter Elizabeth, who is in school in Denver.

Mr. Clayton had finished packing his papers, had put on his overcoat, and had almost reached the door when he collapsed and fell to the floor, his co-workers concluded. He was alone in his office and the hall door was locked.

### Outstanding Water Lawyer

A mail clerk found the body today.

Justice of Peace Charles Windberg and a physician examined the body. "Death undoubtedly was due to a heart attack," Mr. Windberg said.

When Mr. Clayton did not return to the family residence at 1012 East Blanchard street last night Mrs. Clayton assumed he had gone direct to the airport to catch a plane.

Mr. Lawson said Mr. Clayton was recognized as the Southwest's outstanding water lawyer.

He helped negotiate the 1944 Water Treaty with Mexico, which provided for allocation of Rio Grande and Colorado River waters and for construction of huge storage and power dams.

### Born in El Paso

Mr. Clayton formerly was Texas member of the Rio Grande Compact Commission, which allocated Rio Grande water among Texas, Colorado and New Mexico.

He was a member of the City Water Board.

Frank Britton Clayton was born June 18, 1902, in El Paso. His father, Walter Clayton, was a pioneer businessman and City alderman.

### Awarded Fellowship

He attended El Paso schools and received his law degree from the University of Texas and was admitted to practice in 1925. He was a professor of law at the University from 1925 to 1928. He was awarded the Sterling Fellowship at Yale in 1927 and the Brandeis Fellowship at Harvard in 1928-29.

Mr. Clayton practiced law privately in El Paso from 1930 to 1941. In June of 1941 he became chief counsel for the U. S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission.

### Was Member of Commission

Mr. Clayton was special counsel for the City in important utility rate litigation, from 1933 to 1935. He was city attorney of El Paso from March of 1939 to June of 1941.

He was Texas member of the Rio Grande Compact Commission from March of 1935 to March of 1939.

He was admitted to the practice in U. S. District Court, U. S. Civil Court of Appeals, and the U. S. Supreme Court. He was a member of the American Bar Assn., Texas Bar Assn., and El Paso Bar Assn.

He was a Rotarian.

Besides his widow, the former  
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Vivian Stone, Mr. Clayton is survived by a son, Frank Clayton Jr. and a daughter, Elizabeth; two brothers, District Attorney William F. Clayton of El Paso and Walter Clayton of Lubbock; and two sisters, Mrs. Rose Jenkins of El Paso and Miss Frances Clayton, a Texas Western College librarian.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a. m. Monday at the Kaster and Maxon Mortuary Chapel, with Rev. B. M. G. Williams and Rev. Charles Surber officiating.

Burial will be in the family plot in Evergreen Cemetery.