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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1928  
REPORT  
No. 1681

## INDEPENDENT OFFICES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1928

JANUARY 6, 1927.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Wood, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 15959]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Executive Office and for sundry independent executive offices, boards, bureaus, and commissions.

The bill embraces regular annual appropriations for the office of the President and for the independent establishments of the Government, and its order and arrangement follow the general outline submitted by the President in the Budget for the fiscal year 1928.

A detailed tabulation will be found at the end of this report showing the amounts appropriated for the fiscal year 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, the amount recommended to be appropriated in the bill for 1928, together with the increase or decrease in appropriations and estimates as compared with the amounts recommended in the bill.

#### APPROPRIATIONS AND ESTIMATES

The Budget estimates upon which this bill is based were submitted by the President in the Budget for the fiscal year 1928 and will be found in detail in Chapter II of that document, pages 29-108, inclusive. In addition to the estimates submitted in the Budget, supplemental estimates for the ensuing fiscal year aggregating \$14,000 were referred to the committee for consideration. The total of the regular annual and supplemental estimates submitted for consideration in connection with this bill is \$512,964,641.

The total appropriations for the independent offices provided for in this bill for the fiscal year 1927 amounted to \$513,504,936.64.

The amount recommended to be appropriated in this bill for the fiscal year 1928 is \$512,901,808, which sum, compared with the



regular annual appropriations for 1927 and the estimates for 1928, is as follows:

It is \$603,128.64 less than the total of 1927 appropriations, and it is \$62,833 less than the total of the estimates submitted for 1928.

In addition to the appropriations above mentioned permanent annual and indefinite appropriations made without annual action by Congress for the fiscal year 1928 are as follows:

*Permanent annual appropriations*

Relief of indigent in Alaska .....	\$15, 000
Federal Board for Vocational Education .....	7, 367, 000
Federal Power Commission .....	10, 000
Smithsonian Institution .....	60, 000
Total .....	7, 452, 000

PERSONAL SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The committee recommends that the restrictive provision carried in the annual supply bills for the current fiscal year, relating to expenditures for personal services in the District of Columbia in accordance with the classification act of 1923, be continued for the fiscal year 1928. In addition, the committee recommends a limitation upon the amount which may be expended for personal services in the District of Columbia under the various paragraphs of appropriation for each of the independent establishments. This limitation in many instances differs from the recommendation of the Budget and the existing law for the current fiscal year, due to the recommended appropriations for the activities of the various establishments provided for in this bill.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Under the office of the Executive appropriations are made for the salaries of the President and Vice President and for personnel in the office of the President. In addition there are appropriations for contingent and traveling expenses, printing and binding, the upkeep and care of the Executive Mansion and grounds, and the White House police.

ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN

The aggregate value of all property that has been handled by the office of the Alien Property Custodian since its inception is \$602,153,457.34. Of this amount \$330,615,390.45 has been returned in the payment of claims allowed by the Department of Justice and the Alien Property Custodian, there remaining to be returned properties with an aggregate value of \$271,537,866.89. There are 649 pieces of real estate held by the Alien Property Custodian, situated in almost every State of the Union. The following statement indicates the number and disposition of all claims filed as of November 30, 1926:



Number and disposition of claims

Total number of claims filed.....	37, 267
Disposition of claims:	
Suits under section 9.....	632
Allowed by Attorney General.....	6, 582
Disallowed by Attorney General.....	1, 425
Pending before Attorney General.....	265
Allowed by Alien Property Custodian.....	21, 446
Disallowed by Alien Property Custodian.....	795
Withdrawn.....	925
Canceled.....	2, 104
Referred to liquidator.....	444
Pending in office procedure.....	2, 469
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>37, 267</b>

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

The \$3,000,000 program of the American Battle Monuments Commission to provide for the erection of suitable memorials commemorating the services of the American soldier in Europe is well under way. It is planned to erect 8 chapels and 14 monuments in Europe, and contracts for the services of architects have been made for each of the chapels and 6 of the monuments. The chapels are to be erected in the eight American cemeteries abroad, and the following statement gives their location, the number of graves in each cemetery, and the estimated cost of the chapel to be erected:

Location	Number of graves	Estimated cost of chapel	Location	Number of graves	Estimated cost of chapel
Waereghem, Belgium.....	365	\$50, 000	Belleau, France.....	2, 212	\$110, 000
Bony, France.....	1, 826	90, 000	Thiaucourt, France.....	4, 141	140, 000
Suresnes, France.....	1, 506	100, 000	Romagne, France.....	14, 107	300, 000
Fere-en-Tardenois, France.....	5, 946	140, 000	Brookwood, London, England.....	400	70, 000

For general information the committee submits the following statement concerning deaths in the American Expeditionary Forces during the World War:

1. Total number killed in action.....	36, 694
2. Total number who died from wounds.....	13, 691
3. Total number of deaths from disease, and other causes not directly related to battle.....	23, 998
<b>Total deaths from all causes.....</b>	<b>74, 383</b>

It may be of further interest to know the 10 leading causes of deaths shown in item 3 above, which are as follows:

1. Primary pneumonia.....	8, 483	6. Bronchitis.....	392
2. Influenza.....	7, 366	7. Measles.....	358
3. Tuberculosis.....	1, 238	8. Railroad accidents.....	309
4. Military weapons.....	1, 015	9. Air-machine accidents.....	194
5. Epidemic meningitis.....	802	10. Appendicitis.....	194

The committee has inserted authority in the paragraph of appropriation enabling the American Battle Monuments Commission to prepare and publish a guidebook detailing the operations of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe. This book will be sold through the office of the Superintendent of Documents, and it is believed will be in great demand in view of the contemplated visits abroad by many members of the American Legion.



Authority has also been granted the commission to secure an official seal, which shall be judicially noticed. In the preparation of contracts and other official papers used abroad many authentications are now necessary. An example, an official paper is signed by General Pershing, chairman of the commission. That signature must be witnessed by a notary, the seal of the notary recognized by the Department of Justice, and the seal of the Department of Justice must be authenticated by the State Department, after which time the paper is sent abroad. An official of the American Embassy must authenticate the seal of the Department of State, whereupon the French foreign department authenticates the signature of the official in the embassy. The above procedure clearly indicates the need for an official seal, for which the committee has made provision.

The act creating the American Battle Monuments Commission authorized the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries for carrying out the purposes of the act. Certain tracts have been acquired for cemeteries and monumental purposes, upon which taxes must be paid so long as they remain the property of the United States. If these lands are sold to the French Government, they will be held in perpetual lease so long as they are used for these purposes. This is to the advantage of the United States, and the committee recommends authority enabling the American Battle Monuments Commission to dispose of such land as it may deem necessary.

#### ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE

The committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,500,000 for continuing the construction of the Arlington Memorial Bridge across the Potomac River at Washington. The bridge as designed will be a low, level, segmental arch bridge with nine arches, the center span being 185 feet long. The work is progressing satisfactorily, the abutment on the east side having been excavated and concrete is being poured in. The substructure of the first pier is practically completed, the second pier has been excavated and is ready for concrete, and work on the third pier is well under way. Contracts have been let for granite for both the substructure and the superstructure. The following statement indicates the contracts which have been entered into, the character of service to be performed, the total amount of the contract, and amounts paid to date on each:

#### Contracts—Essential facts

Name of contractor	Character of service	Date of expiration	Amount already paid	Total amount of contract
No. 1. H. P. Converse Co.....	Constructions of piers and abutments.	Oct. 19, 1927	\$237,628.30	\$1,229,000.00
No. 2. Pennsylvania R. R. Co. (completed).	Building sidetrack connection.	-----	( <sup>1</sup> )	3,000.00
No. 3. Stone Mountain Granite Corporation.	Granite for bridge.....	July 23, 1927	42,427.15	300,500.00
No. 4. North Carolina Granite Corporation.	do.....	July 1, 1929	-----	1,520,133.00
No. 5. G. B. Mullin Co. (completed).	Building sidetrack.....	July 3, 1926	15,255.22	<sup>2</sup> 15,255.22
No. 6. McKim, Mead & White.	Architects.....	Nov. 17, 1935	26,303.04	<sup>3</sup> 60,000.00
No. 7. W. J. Douglas.....	Consulting engineer.....	-----	18,334.32	<sup>4</sup> 7,500.00

<sup>1</sup> Rebate of \$2.50 to be paid by railroad company for each car carried on track on which freight charges are \$15 or more, until cost of connection is reimbursed.

<sup>2</sup> Supplemental contract dated June 11, 1926, increasing consideration from \$8,772.50 to \$15,255.22.

<sup>3</sup> And expenses.

<sup>4</sup> Per year and expenses.



The estimated cost of the work for the fiscal years 1927 and 1928 is as follows:

*Analysis of cost of work (estimated), fiscal year 1927*

Pay roll-----	\$61, 900
Architects and consultants-----	112, 500
Equipment and plant-----	73, 000
U. S. Engineer office (complete dredging)-----	100, 000
H. P. Converse contract (substructure)-----	777, 000
Arches and superstructure-----	175, 000
Granite facing-----	600, 000
Approaches-----	200, 000
Draw span-----	100, 000
Contingencies (foundation work has special risks and larger element of uncertainty)-----	200, 600
Total-----	2, 400, 000

*Analysis of cost of work (estimated), fiscal year 1928*

Pay roll-----	\$62, 500
Architects and consultants-----	62, 500
Equipment and plant-----	74, 000
H. P. Converse contract (complete substructure)-----	434, 000
Approaches (complete)-----	200, 000
Grading-----	75, 000
Granite-----	600, 000
Arches and superstructure-----	325, 000
Land for B Street or begin construction of small bridges (alternative)-----	200, 000
Draw span-----	400, 000
Contingencies-----	67, 000
U. S. Engineer office (sea wall)-----	100, 000
Total-----	2, 600, 000

**BOARD OF MEDIATION**

Appropriations for the Board of Mediation, created by the act of May 20, 1926, are carried in this bill for the first time. The board consists of five members, appointed for terms of 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1 years, respectively. As the name indicates, the purpose of the board is to settle wage, labor, and other disputes by conference, arbitration, and mediation. Though the Board of Mediation has but recently been created many appeals for relief have been made, consisting of grievance cases and cases relating to wages, rules, and working conditions. The appropriations recommended by the committee for the various activities of the Board of Mediation are in accordance with the Budget estimates.

**BOARD OF TAX APPEALS**

For the Board of Tax Appeals, the committee recommends an appropriation of \$712,780, which sum exceeds the appropriations for the current fiscal year by \$98,555.36, and which is \$142,780 in excess of the estimate submitted in the Budget. The purpose of the increase is to provide additional funds for the printing of decisions of the board and to provide additional personnel urgently needed. That additional attorneys and examiners are essential to the conduct of the work of the board is evidenced by the fact that



there has been filed (as of December 1, 1926) a total of 21,640 appeals, averaging \$16,000 an appeal, or an aggregate of over \$346,000,000. To date there has been disposed of approximately 8,000 appeals aggregating over \$128,000,000. With more than 13,000 appeals pending, and others being submitted at the rate of about 20 per day, it is evident that additional help of the proper kind is a real necessity. The committee's recommendation exceeds the Budget estimate for general expenses of the board by \$135,780, and the language of the paragraph has been amended to permit the Board of Tax Appeals to employ 12 additional persons, at rates of pay to be fixed by the board, but not in excess of \$7,500 each per annum.

#### BUREAU OF EFFICIENCY

The committee recommends an appropriation of \$210,000 for the general expenses of the Bureau of Efficiency for the fiscal year 1928. During the past year the bureau conducted a number of investigations resulting in large savings to the Government through the adoption of the recommended improvements in the method of conducting the business of various offices, and at present is engaged in a large number of important investigations with requests pending for assistance in excess of the capacity of the present organization.

#### CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Appropriations recommended in the accompanying bill for the Civil Service Commission for the fiscal year 1928 aggregate \$1,007,442, an increase of \$4,700 over the Budget estimates. Of this increase it is proposed that \$2,500 shall be used for the compensation of the commissioners, and provision is made in the bill placing their salaries at \$7,500 each. The following statement indicates the volume of work of the Civil Service Commission for the past 10 years:

*Items of work, United States Civil Service Commission, by fiscal years*

Item	1916	1918	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Persons examined	168,221	617,894	325,270	328,336	244,287	229,640	248,236	<sup>1</sup> 216,135	221,658
Persons appointed in classified service	42,057	213,530	116,309	101,711	63,867	57,694	67,349	50,164	38,916
Different kinds examinations held, exclusive of trade positions	367	656	917	1,129	1,002	962	983	979	978
Original military preference claims	597	894	61,371	72,883	67,731	54,305	58,127	58,785	47,858
Communications received	<sup>2</sup> 716,328	<sup>2</sup> 1,829,079	<sup>2</sup> 1,014,420	1,178,369	1,206,454	1,061,836	1,091,185	1,130,202	1,050,662
Retirement cases				6,745	1,719	2,773	2,082	2,063	1,895
Continuance cases				3,086	1,127	1,604	1,565	2,085	2,045
Unclassified employees	<sup>2</sup> 141,131	<sup>2</sup> 275,328	<sup>2</sup> 193,513	<sup>2</sup> 149,371	<sup>2</sup> 140,175	137,133	139,393	141,180	138,405
Classified employees	296,926	<sup>2</sup> 642,432	<sup>2</sup> 497,603	<sup>2</sup> 448,112	<sup>2</sup> 420,688	411,398	415,593	423,538	422,300
Employees in executive civil service	438,057	<sup>2</sup> 917,760	<sup>2</sup> 691,116	597,482	560,863	548,531	554,986	564,718	560,705
Commission's employees	289	<sup>2</sup> 898	613	584	549	519	498	467	460

<sup>1</sup> No railway postal clerk examination held.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated.

For general information the following statements are submitted, showing the number of employees in each branch of the Federal executive civil service on June 30, 1926, with totals for November



11, 1918 (armistice date), and later dates, comprising classified and unclassified (which includes presidential) positions:

Department or office	June 30, 1926						Total
	In District of Columbia			Outside District of Columbia			
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	
The White House	41	3	44				44
State	317	292	609	2,878	826	3,704	4,313
Treasury	6,510	8,252	14,762	30,247	6,610	36,857	51,619
War	2,403	2,172	4,575	39,730	4,463	44,193	48,768
Justice	615	221	836	2,371	556	2,927	3,763
Post Office	3,108	810	3,918	275,787	<sup>2</sup> 26,280	302,067	<sup>3</sup> 305,985
Navy	3,904	1,140	5,044	36,092	2,304	38,396	43,440
Interior	2,329	1,269	3,598	9,210	1,927	11,137	14,735
Agriculture	2,864	1,928	4,792	13,933	2,128	15,961	20,753
Commerce	2,700	1,665	4,365	9,720	743	10,463	14,828
Labor	280	387	667	2,702	613	3,315	3,982
Government Printing Office	3,227	850	4,077				4,077
Smithsonian Institution	378	128	506				506
Interstate Commerce Commission	1,025	321	1,346	459	2	461	1,807
Civil Service Commission	135	206	341	68	58	126	467
Bureau of Efficiency	32	16	48				48
Federal Trade Commission	222	95	317				317
Shipping Board	505	308	<sup>4</sup> 813	531	160	691	1,504
Alien Property Custodian	132	120	252				252
Tariff Commission	118	72	190	12	2	14	204
Employees Compensation Commission	20	49	69				69
Federal Board Vocational Education	35	40	75				75
Panama Canal	61	14	75	9,060	444	9,504	9,579
Public Buildings and Parks, National Capital	1,929	524	2,453				2,453
General Accounting Office	1,179	786	1,965				1,965
Veterans' Bureau	1,464	3,103	4,567	12,239	7,591	19,830	24,397
Railroad Administration <sup>5</sup>	73	40	113	6	2	8	121
Commission of Fine Arts	2		2				2
War Finance Corporation <sup>5</sup>	46	34	80	57	34	91	171
National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics	12	12	24	122	9	131	155
Federal Reserve Board <sup>4</sup>	98	88	186	18		18	204
Board of Tax Appeals	41	61	102				102
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,805</b>	<b>25,006</b>	<b>60,811</b>	<b>445,142</b>	<b>54,752</b>	<b>499,894</b>	<b>560,705</b>

WAR EXPANSION, AND REDUCTION SINCE ARMISTICE

Date	In District of Columbia	Outside District of Columbia	Total
June 30, 1916	39,442	398,615	438,057
Nov. 11, 1918	117,760	<sup>2</sup> 800,000	<sup>2</sup> 917,760
July 31, 1920	90,559	<sup>2</sup> 600,557	<sup>2</sup> 691,116
July 31, 1921	78,865	518,617	597,482
June 30, 1922	69,980	490,883	560,863
June 30, 1923	66,290	482,241	548,531
Dec. 31, 1923	65,025	479,646	544,671
June 30, 1924	64,120	490,866	554,986
Dec. 31, 1924	66,079	489,540	555,619
June 30, 1925	63,756	500,962	564,718
Dec. 31, 1925	61,509	486,568	548,077
June 30, 1926	60,811	499,894	560,705

<sup>1</sup> Does not include legislative or judicial services, nor the commissioned, warranted, or enlisted personnel of the military, naval, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard services, nor the government of the District of Columbia. The Railroad Labor Board, formerly included, was abolished by act of Congress May 20, 1926.

<sup>2</sup> Approximated.

<sup>3</sup> Includes 13,200 clerks at third-class offices, 203 screen-wagon contractors, 295 carriers for offices having special supply, 5,578 clerks in charge of contract stations, 11,054 star-route contractors, and 282 steamboat contractors. Does not include 35,411 clerks at fourth-class offices who are employed and paid by the postmaster, and 21,773 mail messengers not included in previous computations.

<sup>4</sup> Includes administrative offices of Emergency Fleet Corporation, but not workmen at shipyards or in warehouses or employees on vessels.

<sup>5</sup> Positions not subject to the civil service act.



## EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

Appropriations aggregating \$2,698,240 are recommended for the Employees' Compensation Commission for the fiscal year 1928. Of this sum \$2,550,000 is recommended for the employees' compensation fund, and the following statement indicates average monthly expenditures for the fiscal years 1923 to 1926, inclusive, with the estimated cost for 1927 and 1928:

Employees' compensation fund	Net disbursements				Estimates	
	Fiscal year 1923	Fiscal year 1924	Fiscal year 1925	Fiscal year 1926	Estimated monthly average for 1927	Estimated monthly average for 1928
Injury compensation	\$93,545.07	\$84,477.08	\$94,333.42	\$99,537.53	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Lump-sum awards (injury)	29,012.45	13,495.70	9,455.60	11,704.88	11,000.00	9,000.00
Medical treatment and supplies	45,562.28	36,726.79	36,031.19	33,489.04	33,500.00	33,500.00
Transportation, sec. 9	2,118.12	1,961.15	2,087.03	1,903.40	1,900.00	1,900.00
Death compensation	54,158.18	55,508.08	61,295.73	65,423.71	68,000.00	72,000.00
Lump-sum awards (death)	814.48	123.80	38.03	546.69	500.00	500.00
Burial expenses	1,629.92	1,727.42	1,571.25	1,802.55	1,800.00	1,800.00
Embalming and transportation, sec. 11	329.20	347.75	326.40	523.40	500.00	500.00
Net court costs	41.21	92.80	124.91	183.73	200.00	200.00
Total per month	227,210.91	194,460.57	205,263.56	215,114.93	217,400.00	219,400.00
Total per year	2,726,530.83	2,333,526.82	2,463,162.77	2,581,379.17	2,608,800.00	2,632,800.00

NOTE.—The balance in the compensation fund July 1, 1926, was \$47,467.24. The above disbursements are net, after taking into account the refunds received from third-party cases under secs. 26 and 27 of the act. The amounts of these refunds were as follows: Fiscal year 1923, \$19,388.54; fiscal year 1924, \$28,629.11; fiscal year 1925, \$44,640.19; fiscal year 1926, \$29,084.

## FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

Appropriations for the Federal Power Commission are recommended in accordance with the Budget estimates. Under the provisions of the Federal water power act, the work of the commission was to be performed by personnel detailed from the War, Interior, and Agriculture Departments. Thirty-two employees are now so detailed, with an aggregate salary value of \$97,753, as follows:

War Department, 12 employees	\$45,313
Interior Department, 9 employees	25,900
Agriculture Department, 11 employees	26,540
Total, 32 employees	97,753

In order to present a clear picture of the cost of this commission, the committee is of the opinion that all employees permanently engaged upon the work of the commission should be paid from appropriations for that purpose, and consequently recommends the following proviso as a part of the paragraph making general appropriations for the Federal Power Commission:

*Provided*, That the annual estimates of the Federal Power Commission for the fiscal year 1929 shall include the salaries of all civilian employees whose service with the commission has become permanent through detail from any executive department.



## FEDERAL OIL CONSERVATION BOARD

In accordance with the Budget estimate, the committee recommends that the unexpended balance of the appropriation of \$50,000 contained in the first deficiency act, 1925, be reappropriated and made available for the fiscal year 1928. The Federal Oil Conservation Board consists of the Secretaries of War, Navy, Interior, and Commerce. As the name indicates, the prime object of the board is to conserve American oil resources, particularly those on the public domain. One report has been issued dealing directly with this question, and a second report is being prepared, giving consideration to substitutes that may be used to supplement or replace the oil now being produced. Approximately \$9,000 has been expended by this board in the past two years, leaving an unexpended balance of \$41,000.

## GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

For salaries in the General Accounting Office the committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,575,000. This sum is \$50,000 in excess of the Budget estimates, and it is proposed to use this increase in providing additional compensation to employees of the Accounting Office. The general average salary of some of the employees in this establishment, is below the general average of other Government institutions, and the committee is of the opinion that some relief should be given.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

For the necessary expenses of the United States Commission for the Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington an appropriation of \$14,000 is recommended. This sum is expended in the compensation of employees, traveling expenses, and all other expenditures necessary in the work of the commission. The language of the paragraph provides for the compensation of the executive secretary of the commission, from the date of employment, at such rate as the commission may determine, without reference to existing law.

## INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Appropriations for the various activities of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the fiscal year 1928, compared with the estimates submitted in the Budget, are as follows:

	Budget estimates, 1928	Recommended appropriation, 1928
Salaries.....		
General expenses.....	\$139, 500	\$139, 500
Regulating commerce.....	2, 384, 939	2, 460, 600
Safety of employees, etc.....	1, 023, 205	1, 315, 000
Signal safety systems.....	488, 824	515, 824
Locomotive inspection.....	141, 756	148, 320
Valuation of property.....	470, 418	493, 856
Printing and binding.....	1, 306, 325	2, 563, 214
	150, 000	175, 000
Total.....	6, 104, 967	7, 811, 314



It will be noticed that in almost every instance the committee recommends a substantial increase over the Budget estimates.

Car loadings for the years 1924, 1925, and 1926 were, respectively, 48,374,000, 50,934,000, and 53,000,000. In other words, car loadings of revenue freight for 1926 have averaged over 1,000,000 a week, which is the greatest number on record. This increase in the volume of traffic represents the increased business and prosperity of country but at the same time results in more work for the Interstate Commerce Commission, as indicated by the increased number of formal proceedings filed. In 1924 there were 1,659 formal proceedings before the commission, in 1925, 1,780, and in 1926, 1,809. The formal docket section, provided for under the general expense appropriation of the commission, handles these cases, including the proposals of carriers to increase their rates from time to time. Upon the complaint of a shipper these proposed increases may be suspended by the commission, but, under the terms of the act, can not be suspended for more than 120 days. These cases are known as suspension cases, and must be handled within 120 days. As opposed to that, there are the formal docket cases of the shippers, who are undertaking to get better rates or a better relationship of rates, to enable them to compete in the commercial world. To dispose of a formal proceeding of this character takes on an average of 635 days, as compared with an average of 109 days for suspension cases. The less important or board cases, which pass through a section of the bureau of formal cases before consideration by the commission, take an average of 483 days.

The delay in the settlement of the shippers' cases is manifestly unjust, and to relieve the situation the committee recommends an increase of \$141,940 over the amount available for the current fiscal year for the general expenses of the commission, to employ additional examiners and other personnel that may be necessary to expedite the settlement of these cases.

For the bureau of accounts the committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,315,000, an increase of \$279,731 over the amount available for 1927. During the fiscal year 1926 there were docketed a total of 1,413 recapture examination cases, of which 314 were disposed of. It is estimated for the current fiscal year there will be a total of 1,549 cases to be considered, of which all but 810 will be completed. The purpose of the increase in the appropriation, therefore, is to enable the commission to more nearly bring this work current. The work of the Bureau of Accounts consists of the recapture of excess earnings under section 15a of the transportation act, the policing of carriers' accounts, as provided in section 20 of the interstate commerce act, and the consideration of depreciation charges for steam railroad and telephone companies. The total amount of recaptures paid up to December 1, 1926, was \$6,618,203.43, not including interest, which amounts to \$482,000. This fund is still held in trust, because a large portion of it has been paid under protest, some of which may become the subject of litigation.

The increases recommended by the committee for the bureau of safety, signal safety systems, and the bureau of locomotive inspection, are largely to provide for increased per diem rates as provided by the subsistence expense act of 1926. The act of June 7, 1924, provided for an increased number of locomotive inspectors, for which



appropriations were carried in the act for the current fiscal year. As a result of that increase in force, the number of locomotives inspected has increased from 72,279 in 1925 to 90,475 in 1926, and the number of accidents has decreased from 690 in 1925 to 574 in 1926.

For the bureau of valuation the committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,563,214, an increase of \$1,135,254 over the amount available for 1927, and an increase of \$1,256,889 over the Budget estimates. The committee has also provided that the compensation of the director of valuation shall be at the rate of \$10,000 per annum instead of \$9,000. Since the inception of this work in 1913 there has been appropriated to date the sum of \$30,725,294. In the preparation of the appropriations for the valuation of the property of carriers two years ago the committee adopted a three-year program to complete the primary valuation work. The fiscal year 1928 marks the third year of that program, and by the end of that fiscal year the primary valuation work will have been completed. The following statement indicates the status of the work as of December 31, 1926:

## UNDERLYING REPORTS

Section	Number of report	Number of corporations	Miles of road	Per cent of total mileage
Accounting, as of—				
Oct. 31, 1921.....	273	444	61,731	24.89
Oct. 31, 1922.....	555	953	151,572	61.11
Dec. 10, 1922.....	570	989	153,975	62.09
Dec. 31, 1922.....	584	1,017	171,478	70.18
Dec. 31, 1923.....	957	1,572	232,694	95.22
Nov. 30, 1924.....	1,039	1,713	243,716	99.73
Dec. 31, 1925.....	1,074	1,751	244,070	99.9
Dec. 31, 1926.....	1,108	1,764	244,200	99.9
Engineering, as of—				
Oct. 31, 1921.....	443	755	133,139	53.68
Oct. 31, 1922.....	636	1,165	179,425	72.37
Dec. 10, 1922.....	657	1,199	183,259	73.93
Dec. 31, 1922.....	668	1,219	194,058	79.42
Dec. 31, 1923.....	919	1,542	228,006	93.30
Nov. 30, 1924.....	956	1,613	235,133	96.22
Dec. 31, 1925.....	1,057	1,765	243,939	99.8
Dec. 31, 1926.....	1,080	1,793	244,331	99.9
Land, as of—				
Oct. 31, 1921.....	371	565	71,558	28.85
Oct. 31, 1922.....	671	1,065	144,411	58.23
Dec. 10, 1922.....	687	1,085	146,717	59.16
Dec. 31, 1922.....	731	1,134	157,928	64.66
Dec. 31, 1923.....	1,062	1,561	225,298	92.20
Nov. 30, 1924.....	1,113	1,680	233,280	95.4
Dec. 31, 1925.....	1,123	1,74	244,045	99.8
Dec. 31, 1926.....	1,126	1,767	244,208	99.9

## TENTATIVE VALUATION REPORTS

Oct. 31, 1921.....	151	193	24,493	9.86
Oct. 31, 1922.....	287	400	39,956	16.11
Dec. 10, 1922.....	306	429	43,701	17.62
Dec. 31, 1922.....	314	437	43,780	18.92
Dec. 31, 1923.....	328	469	54,626	22.29
Nov. 30, 1924.....	395	603	82,196	33.6
Dec. 31, 1925.....	681	1,013	126,948	51.9
Dec. 31, 1926.....	929	1,417	181,350	74.2

## HEARINGS COMPLETED

Nov. 30, 1924.....	149	182	18,003	7.4
Dec. 31, 1925.....	258	362	61,223	25.1
Dec. 31, 1926.....	479	683	108,034	44.2



When the primary valuation work shall have been completed, work under order No. 3 of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which consists of the policing of carriers' accounts respecting additions, betterments, and abandonments, must continue, as well as the recapture work under section 15a of the transportation act. The estimate of the Budget (\$1,306,325) for the valuation of the property of carriers was the amount necessary to complete the 3-year program of primary valuation work. Further expenditures must be made, however, to bring this valuation to date, and after careful consideration, the committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,563,214 for the fiscal year 1928. Of this sum \$1,306,325 will be expended for the primary valuation work, and the remainder will be applied to the policing of carriers' accounts, and recapture work, as well as to the bringing of valuations to date. It is estimated that all valuations can be brought to date within three years, or by the end of the fiscal year 1931, at an estimated cost of \$7,500,000, of which this appropriation forms a part, after which time appropriations for the Bureau of Valuation will be approximately \$500,000 per annum.

An appropriation of \$175,000 is recommended for printing and binding for the Interstate Commerce Commission for 1928. This sum is \$15,000 more than the appropriation for the current fiscal year, and it is intended that the increase shall be expended in the publication of the reports and decisions of the commission in order that this work may be brought current.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC PARKS

In accordance with the Budget estimate, the committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,694,000 for salaries of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital. Of this sum it is provided that not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for seasonal or intermittent employees to be employed at per diem rates of compensation to be fixed by the director.

#### SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

For several of the various bureaus under the Smithsonian Institution the committee has recommended small increases over the estimates submitted in the Budget. The purpose of these increases is to provide for higher rates of pay to the employees of the Smithsonian Institution, where the average salary is below that of the majority of the Government establishments. The committee has fixed the compensation of the additional assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution at \$7,500 per annum instead of \$6,000, which salary is authorized under the provisions of the classification act. In accordance with the Budget estimate, the committee recommends an appropriation of \$12,500 for the construction of a gallery over the west end of the main hall of the Smithsonian Building, second floor, to relieve present congested conditions, and to provide space for the collection of plant specimens. There is also recommended an increase of \$5,000 over the Budget estimate for printing and binding for the institution.



SHIPPING BOARD

The committee desires to call particular attention to pages 541-710, inclusive, of the hearings on this bill, which relate to the United States Shipping Board and the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation. The activities of the various bureaus of the Shipping Board and the Fleet Corporation, personnel, claims, and operating data and information are fully set forth, together with information relating to the office of the chief counsel and the office of the treasurer.

Appropriations for the Shipping Board are recommended in accordance with the Budget estimates for 1928. For the Fleet Corporation the committee recommends an appropriation of \$12,000,000, together with not to exceed \$5,000,000 of the special appropriation of \$10,000,000 carried in this bill for the fiscal year 1927, and reappropriated for 1928.

The unexpended balance of the appropriation of \$10,000,000 contained in the independent offices act, 1927, is reappropriated, for the purpose of enabling the Fleet Corporation to make loans to purchasers of ships and to operate ships or lines of ships which may be taken back from purchasers because of unjust discrimination and unfair competition by foreign shipowners.

The following statement, to be found on pages 708-710, inclusive, of the hearings, gives information concerning ship operations, finances, claims, ship sales, the laid-up fleet, etc., all of which activities are under the jurisdiction of the Fleet Corporation:



	Fiscal year—				Estimate for fiscal year—			
	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928		
OPERATING DATA								
Number of ships in operation (average during fiscal year):								
Cargo.....	347	338	299	242	270	247		
Passenger and cargo.....	17	14	14	6	5	5		
United States Lines.....	11	10	6	6	5	5		
Tankers.....	17	21	14	7	8	7		
Total.....	392	383	333	261	288	264		
Total tonnage of ships in operation (based on average number shown above—dead-weight tons).....								
Number of cargo and passenger and cargo services maintained at end of fiscal year.....	3, 378, 342	3, 359, 583	2, 970, 948	2, 328, 806	2, 562, 675	2, 350, 395		
Total number of terminations.....	78	71	61	50	49	49		
	1, 848	1, 686	1, 569	1, 215	1, 331	1, 176		
OPERATING RESULTS								
Total vessel revenues.....	\$96, 468, 843. 06	\$103, 625, 415. 83	\$100, 460, 150. 07	\$81, 038, 731. 58	\$77, 963, 000. 00	\$72, 345, 000. 00		
Other operating revenues (net).....	780, 026. 57	692, 374. 66	503, 601. 49	899, 151. 25	1, 060, 000. 00	600, 000. 00		
Total revenues.....	97, 248, 869. 63	104, 317, 791. 49	100, 963, 751. 56	81, 937, 882. 83	79, 023, 000. 00	72, 945, 000. 00		
Total vessel operating expenses.....	140, 173, 947. 17	141, 046, 616. 33	128, 319, 166. 18	97, 700, 710. 35	92, 663, 000. 00	86, 824, 000. 00		
Other operating expenses.....	42, 106. 98	4, 467, 569. 75	2, 708, 373. 62	3, 843, 781. 23	3, 760, 000. 00	2, 800, 000. 00		
Total expenses.....	140, 216, 054. 15	145, 514, 186. 08	131, 027, 539. 80	101, 544, 491. 58	96, 423, 000. 00	89, 624, 000. 00		
Reserve.....								
Deficit for year.....	42, 967, 184. 52	41, 196, 394. 59	30, 063, 788. 24	19, 606, 608. 75	17, 400, 000. 00	821, 000. 00		
Appropriation for year.....	50, 000, 000. 00	50, 000, 000. 00	30, 000, 000. 00	24, 000, 000. 00	13, 900, 000. 00	17, 500, 000. 00		
SPECIAL FUND TO COVER LOSSES OF LINES TAKEN BACK FROM PURCHASERS								
Amount of appropriation.....								
Balance of appropriation at end of fiscal year.....								
OPERATING FUNDS (INCLUDING INSURANCE RESERVES)								
Operating balance carried forward at end of year.....	40, 996, 657. 01	43, 319, 050. 80	40, 656, 393. 72	41, 615, 434. 42	10, 000, 000. 00	10, 000, 000. 00		
Liabilities covered by balance carried forward.....	40, 996, 657. 01	42, 826, 470. 63	40, 656, 393. 72	41, 615, 434. 42	10, 000, 000. 00	10, 000, 000. 00		



CONSTRUCTION LOAN FUND

Balance available for use at end of year  
 Outstanding loans at end of year  
 Amounts in suspense (pending action by Congress)

Total fund

DIESELIZATION FUND

Balance at end of year

INSURANCE RESERVES

Marine insurance:  
 Reserve at end of year  
 Charges to reserve during year  
 Protection and indemnity insurance:  
 Reserve at end of year  
 Charges to reserve during year

LIQUIDATION FUNDS

Total receipts from liquidation  
 Distribution of receipts:  
 Liquidation expenses (including administrative, laid-up fleet, etc.)  
 Transfers to construction loan fund  
 Transfers to miscellaneous receipts U. S. Treasury  
 Receipts in excess of expenses not available for use, pending action by Congress  
 Interest and principal on securities held in construction loan fund, not available  
 for use, pending action by Congress (not included in receipts shown above)

LAID-UP FLEET

Number of vessels at end of year  
 Tonnage of vessels at end of year (dead-weight tons)  
 Lay-up expenses during year

SALE OF VESSELS

Number of vessels sold:  
 Individually  
 In groups for restricted operation as lines  
 For scrapping  
 Total vessels sold  
 Number of lines sold  
 Total price of vessels sold

1. Reappropriated.

2. Fund not authorized until fiscal year 1925.

3. Reserve not set up until end of fiscal year 1923.

4. Expenses of liquidation paid from general operating funds; amount not available.

5. Difference between this amount and receipts during year made up of collections during preceding year.

6. Wooden vessels.

50,000,000.00	60,881,931.62	57,424,003.52	60,925,269.97
50,000,000.00	400,000.00	5,140,000.00	6,910,000.33
		18,564,447.86	19,367,504.65
	61,281,931.62	81,128,451.38	87,202,774.95
(2)	(2)	8,217,160.20	5,231,417.57
3,436,232.29	3,669,668.71	6,391,397.56	7,136,096.32
(3)	5,343,318.81	4,651,153.34	2,933,699.51
5,414,217.61	5,312,541.38	4,971,157.80	4,670,257.72
(3)	2,993,410.55	2,260,582.20	1,746,322.61
43,442,385.61	23,090,661.10	10,373,643.17	8,445,468.35
(4)	(4)	4,091,571.27	3,432,308.23
50,000,000.00	11,281,931.62	6,282,071.90	5,013,160.12
	11,808,729.48		5,520,079.29
937	924	914	580
5,949,122	5,862,726	5,850,273	4,295,754
\$4,418,335.59	\$2,915,814.23	\$2,867,577.68	\$2,474,355.29
146	24	47	107
6 237	10	5	42
383	18	6 3	199
	52	55	348
	2	1	4
\$30,138,906.96	\$7,045,684.58	\$8,995,729.09	\$19,666,059.70



	Fiscal year—			Estimate for fiscal year—		
	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
<b>SPECIAL CLAIMS APPROPRIATION</b>						
Balance at end of year	\$6,517,924.25	\$5,034,687.40	\$4,596,144.79	\$3,570,237.96		
Settlements during year from appropriation	(7)	1,483,236.85	438,542.61	1,025,906.83		
<b>CLAIMS AGAINST SHIPPING BOARD (INCLUDING COURT OF CLAIMS CASES)</b>						
Number of claims at end of year:						
Admiralty	1,664	1,038	560	393		
Legal	290	266	243	270		
Miscellaneous	111	94	74	48		
Unpaid awards				13		
Total number	2,065	1,398	877	724		
Gross amount of claims:						
Admiralty	\$31,201,331.64	\$18,988,078.71	\$11,019,484.24	\$6,787,478.34		
Legal	85,010,217.29	76,346,585.07	60,660,182.57	46,385,021.01		
Miscellaneous	272,360.33	524,119.16	1,200,671.61	258,005.58		
Unpaid awards				819,303.10		
Total amount	116,483,909.26	95,858,782.94	72,880,338.42	54,249,808.03		

<sup>7</sup> Balance set-up at end of fiscal year 1923, to cover estimated settlement cost of outstanding claims payable from the special appropriation.

NOTE.—These totals include claims which, when settled, will be paid from the special claims appropriation.



## VETERANS' BUREAU

For the Veterans' Bureau for the ensuing fiscal year the committee recommends appropriations in accordance with the Budget estimates, with the exception of the appropriation for military and naval insurance. The total amount recommended to be appropriated is \$473,400,000, an increase of \$10,435,000 over the total of the appropriations for the current fiscal year. For salaries and expenses the committee recommends an appropriation of \$42,500,000, a decrease of \$1,500,000 as compared with the sum available for this purpose for 1927. The following comparative statement of personnel for the past several years indicates the present efficient administration of the bureau.

Comparative statement of personnel by years

	Central office	Hospitals	Supply depots	Other field	Total
July 1, 1924	4,549	10,178	165	12,143	27,035
July 1, 1925	4,501	12,818	264	10,039	27,622
July 1, 1926	4,212	12,662	202	7,321	24,397
Dec. 1, 1926	4,155	12,772	197	6,592	23,716

For military and naval compensation an appropriation of \$168,500,000 is recommended. On November 30, 1926, there were 233,037 active disability claims, and 80,481 active death compensation claims, with an average monthly payment per death award of approximately \$30.27. The World War veterans' act as amended provides liberally for the benefit of World War veterans, and if no further amendments are enacted, it is expected that in so far as death compensation claims are concerned, the peak of the load will be reached in June, 1927.

For medical and hospital services the committee recommends an appropriation of \$35,275,000 for the fiscal year 1928, in accordance with the Budget estimate. Of this sum it is estimated that \$11,354,405 will be allotted to other Government services that afford facilities to the Veterans' Bureau and services on the fee basis and under contract service, which may be itemized as follows:

Service	Average number of patients	Number of patient-days	Cost per patient-day	Cost of hospitalization
U. S. Army	1,680	614,880	\$4.38	\$2,693,210.00
U. S. Navy	1,100	402,600	4.00	1,610,400.00
Soldiers' homes	2,185	802,185	2.50	2,005,460.00
Interior Department	500	183,000	1.50	299,500.00
Public Health Service	220	80,520	3.80	309,475.00
Fee medical service				665,660.00
Fee dental service				115,300.00
Fee contract hospitals	3,000	1,098,000	3.30	4,436,200.00
Total				11,354,405.00



During the fiscal year 1926 expenditures for the purposes above enumerated amounted to \$12,185,742.03, with the estimated expenditures for the fiscal year 1927 aggregating \$11,953,050.

It is also provided that the appropriation not to exceed \$3,500,000 may be expended at Veterans' Bureau hospitals as follows: For ordinary repairs, \$955,900; for approach work, \$259,500; and for alterations and improvements, \$2,284,600. The following statement of general information relates to Veterans' Bureau hospitals:

Object	Tuberculosis hospitals	Neuropsychiatric hospitals	General hospitals	Total
Number of.....	19	16	18	53
Area of grounds (acres).....	24,835.8	14,257.6	2,092.1	41,185.8
Bed capacity.....	7,313	8,050	5,232	20,595
Number of buildings.....	1,184	854	275	2,313
Average population (1926).....	5,667	7,365	4,010	17,042
Average per diem (1926).....	\$5.42	\$2.97	\$4.51	\$4.19

In accordance with the recommendation of the Budget the committee has incorporated in the paragraph making appropriations for medical and hospital services provision for court or other expenses incident to any investigation or court proceeding for the appointment or removal of any guardian, curator, conservator, or other person legally vested with the care of the claimant or his estate, or in connection with the administration of such estate by such fiduciaries.

A grand total of \$719,511,637.12 was made available for vocational rehabilitation of veterans of the World War. Approximately \$9,600,000 of this sum remains available to continue the rehabilitation of those now in training. As of December 1, 1926, 334,053 applicants had been registered for training. Of this number 154,495 were terminated before entrance into training, 179,558 had entered training, 1,229 were in training status and 178,329 had terminated training, of whom 127,461 were rehabilitated, 48,883 had discontinued training, and 1,985 were deceased after induction into training.

For the adjusted service certificate fund the committee recommends an appropriation of \$112,000,000 for the fiscal year 1928. The number of applications received for adjusted compensation, as of November 30, 1926, by branches of the service are as follows: Army, 2,835,829; Navy, 399,020; Marine Corps, 57,555; total, 3,292,404. Of this number 3,249,133 applications have been acted upon, with total awards valued at \$3,192,161,282.78. Death claims approved number 25,299, with an aggregate value of \$26,012,037.

1,000,000.00	88.15	882,118	0.00		U. S. Army
1,010,000.00	01.4	102,000	1,000		U. S. Navy
2,000,000.00	07.2	207,108	2,000		Marine Corps
200,000.00	1.00	187,000	1,000		Public Health Service
300,000.00	3.30	80,000	3,000		Public Health Service
115,000.00					Public Health Service
1,100,000.00	8.30	1,000,000	1,000		Public Health Service
11,000,000.00					Public Health Service



The committee recommends an appropriation of \$114,000,000 for military and naval insurance. This sum is \$2,000,000 less than the Budget estimate. Estimated expenditures for 1928 may be itemized as follows:

Installments on account of disability and death claims (active claims July 1, 1927)-----	\$89, 148, 410
Installments on account of disability and death claims, awarded to June 30, 1927-----	1, 701, 174
<b>Total, for installment payments-----</b>	<b>90, 849, 584</b>
Deduction on account of claims terminated by reason of lump-sum payments-----	1, 217, 970
<b>Net-----</b>	<b>89, 631, 614</b>
Commuted value of lump-sum payments under sec. 303 of World War veterans' act-----	27, 676, 368
Transfer from military and naval insurance fund to United States Government life insurance fund-----	4, 654, 896
<b>Total-----</b>	<b>121, 692, 878</b>

The total of all money available for military and naval insurance for the fiscal year 1927 amounted to \$132,178,844, with estimated expenditures aggregating \$122,904,720, leaving an unexpended balance at the close of the fiscal year 1927 of \$9,274,124. This unexpended balance plus the sum of \$114,000,000, recommended to be appropriated in this bill, makes a total of \$123,274,124 available to meet estimated expenditures of \$121,692,878, leaving the sum of \$1,581,246 to meet any contingencies that might arise.

The following statement indicates the kind, number, and value of insurance policies in force, as of November 30, 1926:

	Number	Amount
Term insurance in force-----	104, 000	\$806, 743, 114. 00
United States Government life insurance in force:		
20-payment life-----	143, 805	635, 398, 667. 23
20-year endowment-----	117, 427	345, 615, 748. 77
Ordinary life-----	101, 712	551, 016, 400. 76
30-year endowment-----	30, 975	131, 835, 611. 95
Endowment at 62-----	28, 217	138, 887, 508. 57
30-payment life-----	23, 665	122, 924, 506. 70
Extended insurance-----	16, 225	41, 025, 149. 91
5-year convertible term policies-----	1, 264	7, 798, 870. 00
<b>Total-----</b>	<b>463, 290</b>	<b>1, 974, 502, 463. 89</b>

For hospital construction the committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,000,000, the remainder of the authorization of \$10,000,000 provided in the act approved March 3, 1925. With this sum, there will have been appropriated under the provisions of the four Langley Acts an aggregate of \$52,450,000. The committee is of the opinion that legislation should not be enacted extending hospitalization to nonservice cases, as such action would entail further appro-



priations for hospital construction. This, however, is a policy for Congress to determine, and the following extract from General Hines's testimony in connection with additional hospital construction may be of interest:

The whole thing will depend upon the policy adopted by Congress with reference to whether we are to take into our hospitals more of the nonservice cases. The problem of additional construction will hinge entirely upon the policy adopted by the Congress. If we are to hospitalize all service men regardless of the war, regardless of their disability, further construction will be necessary. If we are simply to take care of compensable cases, the amount of the additional construction will be very small and will be in keeping with what the bureau proposed in the first place on what we termed the \$14,000,000 program to complete everything, and that contemplated additions where needed, the replacement of temporary structures and one or two hospitals which we have worked out of the 10.

The following statement indicates the kind, number, and value of insurance policies in force, as of November 30, 1926. The total of all money available for military and naval insurance for the fiscal year 1927 amounted to \$132,178,844, with estimated expenditures aggregating \$122,904,750, leaving an unexpended balance at the close of the fiscal year 1927 of \$9,274,094. This unexpended balance plus the sum of \$11,000,000 recommended to be appropriated in this bill, makes a total of \$20,274,094 available to meet estimated expenditures of \$151,692,878, leaving the sum of \$48,581,216 to meet any contingencies that might arise.

Number	Amount	Description
1,384	\$ 7,366,870 00	4 year expiring term policies
10,325	41,026,136 00	10 year expiring term policies
38,676	177,324,000 00	20 year expiring term policies
28,317	128,867,366 07	30 year expiring term policies
10,076	141,832,017 00	Ordinary life
161,573	651,014,400 78	20 year endowment
112,427	683,433,726 77	20 year endowment life
143,808	623,362,007 28	20 year endowment life
104,000	268,742,114 00	Term insurance in force
483,270	\$ 1,371,601,408 80	Total

For hospital construction the committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,000,000, the remainder of the authorization of \$10,000,000 provided in the act approved March 8, 1925. With this sum there will have been appropriated under the provisions of the four Langerley Acts an aggregate of \$52,450,000. The committee is of the opinion that legislation should not be enacted extending hospitalization to nonservice cases, as such action would entail further appro-



INDEPENDENT OFFICES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1928

A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928

Object	Appropriations for 1927 in the independent offices, deficiency, and other acts	Budget estimates for 1928, regular annual and supplemental	Amount recommended in the bill for 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1927 appropriation	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1928 Budget estimates
<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICE</b>					
President, salary of-----	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00		
Vice President, salary of-----	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00		
Executive Office:					
Salaries-----	95,260.00	95,260.00	95,260.00		
Contingent expenses-----	35,500.00	35,500.00	35,500.00		
President, traveling expenses-----	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00		
Printing and binding-----	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00		
Executive Mansion and Grounds, maintenance-----	485,000.00	104,000.00	104,000.00	-\$381,000.00	
White House police:					
Salaries-----	83,400.00	83,400.00	83,400.00		
Uniforms and equipment-----	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00		
Total, Executive Office-----	1,819,460.00	438,460.00	438,460.00	-\$381,000.00	

<sup>1</sup> In addition \$100,000 for oil lease investigations.



A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928—Continued

Object	Appropriations for 1927 in the independent offices, deficiency, and other acts	Budget estimates for 1928, regular annual and supplemental	Amount recommended in the bill for 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1927 appropriation	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1928 Budget estimates
<b>ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN</b>					
Salaries and expenses-----	\$130,000.00	\$97,500.00	\$97,500.00	-\$32,500.00	-----
Printing and binding-----	650.00	500.00	500.00	-150.00	-----
Total, Alien Property Custodian-----	130,650.00	98,000.00	98,000.00	-32,650.00	-----
<b>AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION</b>					
Salaries and expenses-----	800,000.00	600,000.00	600,000.00	-200,000.00	-----
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission-----	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00	-----	-----
<b>BOARD OF MEDIATION 2</b>					
Salaries-----	-----	60,000.00	60,000.00	+60,000.00	-----
General expenses-----	-----	177,000.00	177,000.00	+177,000.00	-----
Arbitration boards-----	-----	100,000.00	100,000.00	+100,000.00	-----
Emergency boards-----	-----	50,000.00	50,000.00	+50,000.00	-----
Printing and binding-----	-----	3,000.00	3,000.00	+3,000.00	-----
Total, Board of Mediation-----	-----	390,000.00	390,000.00	+390,000.00	-----

A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928—Continued



BOARD OF TAX APPEALS

Salaries and expenses-----	594, 224. 64	546, 960. 00	682, 740. 00	+88, 515. 36	+ \$135, 780. 00
Printing and binding-----	20, 000. 00	23, 040. 00	30, 040. 00	+10, 040. 00	+7, 000. 00
Total, Board of Tax Appeals-----	614, 224. 64	570, 000. 00	712, 780. 00	+98, 555. 36	+142, 780. 00
BUREAU OF EFFICIENCY					
Salaries and expenses-----	210, 000. 00	210, 000. 00	210, 000. 00		
Printing and binding-----	350. 00	350. 00	350. 00		
Total, Bureau of Efficiency-----	210, 350. 00	210, 350. 00	210, 350. 00		
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION					
Office force-----	470, 000. 00	504, 000. 00	506, 500. 00	+36, 500. 00	+2, 500. 00
Field force-----	330, 000. 00	330, 000. 00	330, 000. 00		
Expert examiners-----	2, 000. 00	1, 800. 00	2, 000. 00		+200. 00
Administration of retirement act-----	35, 000. 00			-35, 000. 00	
Examination of presidential postmasters-----	26, 000. 00	26, 000. 00	26, 000. 00		
Traveling expenses-----	18, 000. 00	18, 000. 00	20, 000. 00	+2, 000. 00	+2, 000. 00
Contingent expenses-----	38, 000. 00	40, 350. 00	40, 350. 00		
Rent-----	24, 592. 00	24, 592. 00	24, 592. 00		
Printing and binding-----	58, 000. 00	58, 000. 00	58, 000. 00		
Total, Civil Service Commission-----	1, 001, 592. 00	1, 002, 742. 00	1, 007, 442. 00	+5, 850. 00	+4, 700. 00

<sup>2</sup> Appropriations aggregating \$285,220 transferred from the Railroad Labor Board.



A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928—Continued

Object	Appropriations for 1927 in the independent offices, deficiency, and other acts	Budget estimates for 1928, regular annual and supplemental	Amount recommended in the bill for 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1927 appropriation	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1928 Budget estimates
<b>COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS</b>					
Salaries and expenses-----	\$5,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	+\$2,000.00	
Printing and binding-----	295.00	300.00	300.00	+5.00	
Total, Commission of Fine Arts-----	5,295.00	7,300.00	7,300.00	+2,005.00	
<b>EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION</b>					
Salaries-----	132,540.00	129,040.00	132,540.00		+\$3,500.00
Contingent expenses-----	9,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	+3,000.00	
Printing and binding-----	3,000.00	3,700.00	3,700.00	+700.00	
Administration of employees' compensation fund-----	2,600,000.00	2,550,000.00	2,550,000.00	-50,000.00	
Total, Employees' Compensation Commission-----	2,744,540.00	2,694,740.00	2,698,240.00	-46,300.00	+3,500.00
<b>FEDERAL BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION</b>					
Vocational education, Hawaii-----	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00		
Vocational rehabilitation-----	740,000.00	700,000.00	700,000.00	-40,000.00	



Administrative expenses-----	73, 620. 00	68, 230. 00	68, 230. 00	-5, 390. 00
Total, Federal Board for Vocational Education-----	843, 620. 00	798, 230. 00	798, 230. 00	-45, 390. 00
Federal Oil Conservation Board <sup>1</sup> -----				
FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION				
Salaries and expenses-----	25, 400. 00	28, 500. 00	28, 500. 00	+3, 100. 00
Printing and binding-----	4, 000. 00	4, 000. 00	4, 000. 00	
Total Federal Power Commission-----	29, 400. 00	32, 500. 00	32, 500. 00	+3, 100. 00
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION				
Salaries-----	50, 000. 00	50, 000. 00	50, 000. 00	
Expenses-----	930, 000. 00	917, 850. 00	917, 850. 00	-12, 150. 00
Printing and binding-----	17, 000. 00	16, 500. 00	16, 500. 00	-500. 00
Total, Federal Trade Commission-----	997, 000. 00	984, 350. 00	984, 350. 00	-12, 650. 00
GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE				
Salaries-----	3, 539, 410. 00	3, 525, 000. 00	3, 575, 000. 00	+50, 000. 00
Contingent expenses-----	284, 550. 00	232, 000. 00	232, 000. 00	-52, 550. 00
Printing and binding-----	36, 000. 00	26, 000. 00	26, 000. 00	-10, 000. 00
Total, General Accounting Office-----	3, 859, 960. 00	3, 783, 000. 00	3, 833, 000. 00	+50, 000. 00
George Washington Bicentennial Commission-----	10, 000. 00	14, 000. 00	14, 000. 00	+4, 000. 00

<sup>1</sup> Reappropriation of unexpended balance.



A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928--Continued

Object	Appropriations for 1927 in the independent offices, deficiency, and other acts	Budget estimates for 1928, regular annual add supplemental	Amount recommended in the bill for 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1927 appropriation	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1928 Budget estimates
<b>HOUSING CORPORATION</b>					
Salaries-----	\$47,700.00	\$43,300.00	\$43,300.00	-\$4,400.00	
Contingent expenses-----	5,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	-500.00	
Printing and binding-----	1,000.00	800.00	800.00	-200.00	
Collections-----	32,000.00	29,000.00	29,000.00	-3,000.00	
Government hotels, Washington-----	505,483.00	480,136.00	480,136.00	-25,347.00	
Ground rent-----	74,315.00			-74,315.00	
Maintenance, unsold property-----	1,400.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	-400.00	
Miscellaneous expenses on property sold-----	6,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	-1,000.00	
Total, Housing Corporation-----	673,398.00	564,236.00	564,236.00	-109,162.00	
<b>INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION</b>					
Salaries-----	139,500.00	139,500.00	139,500.00		
General expenses-----	2,318,660.00	2,384,939.00	2,460,600.00	+141,940.00	+\$75,661.00
Regulating commerce-----	1,035,269.00	1,023,205.00	1,315,000.00	+279,731.00	+291,795.00
Safety of employees, etc-----	475,000.00	488,824.00	515,824.00	+40,824.00	+27,000.00



Signal safety systems-----	138,320.00	141,756.00	148,320.00	+10,000.00	+6,564.00
Locomotive safety inspection-----	458,448.00	470,418.00	493,856.00	+35,408.00	+23,438.00
Valuation of property-----	1,427,960.00	1,306,325.00	2,563,214.00	+1,135,254.00	+1,256,889.00
Printing and binding-----	160,000.00	150,000.00	175,000.00	+15,000.00	+25,000.00
Total, Interstate Commerce Com- mission-----	6,153,157.00	6,104,967.00	7,811,314.00	+1,658,157.00	+1,706,347.00
NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS					
Salaries and expenses-----	500,000.00	510,000.00	510,000.00	+10,000.00	
Printing and binding-----	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00		
Total, National Advisory Commit- tee for Aeronautics-----	513,000.00	523,000.00	523,000.00	+10,000.00	
Childroyd Collection-----	50,000.00			50,000.00	
PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION					
Salaries-----	10,000.00			-10,000.00	
General expenses-----	250,000.00			-250,000.00	
Total-----	260,000.00			-260,000.00	
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC PARKS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL					
Salaries-----	1,675,500.00	1,694,000.00	1,694,000.00	+18,500.00	
General expenses-----	607,850.00	725,500.00	725,500.00	+117,650.00	
Printing and binding-----	3,500.00	3,450.00	3,450.00	-50.00	
Comfort station, Lincoln Memorial-----	20,000.00			-20,000.00	
Total-----	2,306,850.00	2,422,950.00	2,422,950.00	+116,100.00	



*A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928—Continued*

Object	Appropriations for 1927 in the independent offices, deficiency, and other acts	Budget estimates for 1928, regular annual and supplemental	Amount recommended in the bill for 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1927 appropriation	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1928 Budget estimates
RAILROAD LABOR BOARD					
Salaries and general expenses-----	\$275, 220. 00	} Transferred to the Board of Mediation.	-----	-\$275, 220. 00	-----
Printing and binding-----	10, 000. 00		-----	-10, 000. 00	-----
Total, Railroad Labor Board-----	285, 220. 00		-----	-285, 220. 00	-----
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION					
International exchanges-----	46, 260. 00	\$46, 260. 00	\$46, 855. 00	+595. 00	+\$595. 00
American Ethnology-----	57, 160. 00	57, 160. 00	58, 720. 00	+1, 560. 00	+1, 560. 00
International Catalogue of Scientific Literature-----	7, 500. 00	7, 000. 00	7, 260. 00	-240. 00	+260. 00
Astrophysical Observatory-----	31, 180. 00	31, 180. 00	32, 060. 00	+880. 00	+880. 00
Assistant secretary-----	6, 000. 00	6, 000. 00	7, 500. 00	+1, 500. 00	+1, 500. 00
National Museum:					
Furniture, cases, etc-----	23, 730. 00	26, 500. 00	26, 500. 00	+2, 770. 00	-----
Heat, telegraph, etc-----	78, 140. 00	79, 500. 00	79, 500. 00	+1, 360. 00	-----
Increase of collections-----	450, 000. 00	454, 440. 00	473, 510. 00	+23, 510. 00	+19, 070. 00
Repairs to buildings, etc-----	12, 000. 00	13, 000. 00	13, 000. 00	+1, 000. 00	-----



Purchase of books, etc-----	1, 500. 00	1, 500. 00	1, 500. 00	-----
Stamps and foreign postage-----	450. 00	450. 00	450. 00	-----
Steel gallery—construction-----	-----	12, 500. 00	+12, 500. 00	-----
National Gallery of Art-----	29, 381. 00	29, 381. 00	30, 356. 00	+975. 00
Printing and binding-----	90, 000. 00	85, 000. 00	90, 000. 00	+5, 000. 00
Total, Smithsonian Institution-----	833, 301. 00	849, 871. 00	879, 711. 00	+29, 840. 00
TARIFF COMMISSION				
Salaries and expenses-----	690, 500. 00	673, 500. 00	673, 500. 00	-----
Printing and binding-----	8, 500. 00	8, 500. 00	8, 500. 00	-----
Total, Tariff Commission-----	699, 000. 00	682, 000. 00	682, 000. 00	-----
UNITED STATES GEOGRAPHIC BOARD				
Salaries-----	(1)	3, 645. 00	3, 645. 00	-----
Printing and binding-----	345. 00	300. 00	300. 00	-----
Total, Geographic Board-----	345. 00	3, 945. 00	3, 945. 00	-----
UNITED STATES SHIPPING BOARD				
Salaries and expenses-----	292, 574. 00	283, 000. 00	283, 000. 00	-----
Printing and binding-----	6, 000. 00	7, 000. 00	7, 000. 00	-----
Emergency shipping fund-----	13, 900, 000. 00	12, 000, 000. 00	12, 000, 000. 00	-----
Special shipping fund-----	10, 000, 000. 00	Reappropriation.	Reappropriation.	-----
Total, Shipping Board-----	24, 198, 574. 00	12, 290, 000. 00	12, 290, 000. 00	-----

<sup>1</sup> Payable from appropriations for 1926 and 1927.



A comparative statement of the amounts appropriated for 1927, the Budget estimates for 1928, and the amounts recommended in the accompanying bill for 1928—Continued

Object	Appropriations for 1927 in the independent offices, deficiency, and other acts	Budget estimates for 1928, regular annual and supplemental	Amount recommended in the bill for 1928	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1927 appropriation	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill, compared with 1928 Budget estimates
VERMONT SESQUICENTENNIAL					
Expenses-----	\$1,000.00			-\$1,000.00	
UNITED STATES VETERANS' BUREAU					
Salaries and expenses-----	44,000,000.00	\$42,500,000.00	\$42,500,000.00	-1,500,000.00	
Printing and binding-----	165,000.00	125,000.00	125,000.00	-40,000.00	
Military and naval compensation-----	140,800,000.00	168,500,000.00	168,500,000.00	+27,700,000.00	
Medical and hospital services-----	35,000,000.00	35,275,000.00	35,275,000.00	+275,000.00	
Adjusted certificate fund-----	116,000,000.00	112,000,000.00	112,000,000.00	-4,000,000.00	
Military and naval insurance-----	123,000,000.00	116,000,000.00	114,000,000.00	-9,000,000.00	-\$2,000,000.00
Hospital facilities and services-----	4,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-3,000,000.00	
Total, United States Veterans' Bureau-----	462,965,000.00	475,400,000.00	473,400,000.00	+10,435,000.00	-2,000,000.00
Grand total, regular annual appropriations-----	1,513,504,936.64	512,964,641.00	512,901,808.00	-603,128.64	-62,833.00

<sup>1</sup> In addition \$100,000 for oil-lease investigation.



CLERK'S NOTE.—In addition to the foregoing appropriations, the following permanent annual appropriations are made without action by Congress:

Object	Estimated for 1928	Appropriated for 1927
Relief of indigent in Alaska-----	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Federal Board for Vocational Education-----	7,367,000.00	7,367,000.00
Federal Power Commission-----	10,000.00	3,000.00
Smithsonian Institution-----	60,000.00	60,000.00
Total-----	7,452,000.00	7,445,000.00

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Smithsonian Institution	\$453,000.00	\$442,000.00
Federal Power Commission	80,000.00	80,000.00
Federal Board for Vocational Education	10,000.00	10,000.00
Relief of indigent in Alaska	301,000.00	296,000.00
	212,000.00	212,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>856,000.00</b>	<b>840,000.00</b>

also made without action by Congress:

... In addition to the following appropriations the following amounts were available for the following purposes: