

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924

HEARINGS

BEFORE A

**SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
UNITED STATES SENATE**

**SIXTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS
FOURTH SESSION**

ON

H. R. 13559

**A BILL MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT
OF THE INTERIOR FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1924, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

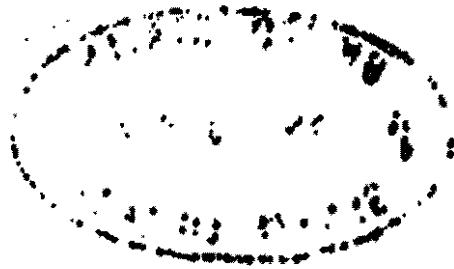
Printed for the use of the Committee on Appropriations



WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1923

16386





SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

REED SMOOT, Utah, *Chairman.*

CHARLES CURTIS, Kansas.

WILLIAM J. HARRIS, Georgia.

SELDEN P. SPENCER, Missouri.

ANDRIEUS A. JONES, New Mexico.

LAWRENCE C. PHIPPS, Colorado.

ROBERT L. OWEN, Oklahoma.

WILLIAM B. MCKINLEY, Illinois.

KENNEDY F. REA, *Clerk.*

ii





INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1923.

**UNITED STATES SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
Washington, D. C.**

The subcommittee met at 10.30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Senators Smoot (chairman), Curtis, Spencer, Phipps, and Harris.

The subcommittee thereupon proceeded to the consideration of the bill (H. R. 13559) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, and for other purposes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. EDWARD C. FINNEY, FIRST ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.**

The CHAIRMAN (Senator Smoot). Mr. Finney, have you some suggestions you desire to make at this time in relation to the bill?

Mr. FINNEY. Just a word in opening. I have asked some of our bureau heads to be present to present their views on a few items.

As a beginning, I desire to state that on the whole we are fairly well satisfied with the result of the appropriations authorized by the Bureau of the Budget and passed by the House. There are a number of items, however, where we feel that our work will be hampered or injured if some change is not made.

I wish to take up one or two small items in the Secretary's Office, and then ask the chief clerk of the department to conclude with respect to that office.

SALARY OF CHIEF CLERK.

The chief clerk of the Interior Department for many years has received a salary of \$4,000 per year. That amount was authorized in the appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1922. The appropriation act, however, provided for the transfer to the office of Public Buildings and Grounds of the care of the Interior Department building. The chief clerk's salary of \$4,000 has included a statement "including \$500 as superintendent of buildings."

Senator SMOOT. Who is the chief clerk? What is his name?

Mr. FINNEY. John Harvey. He has been in the department many years.

On page 31 of the hearings before the House you will find a rather long discussion of the proposition, in which I urged the House Appropriations Committee to continue the salary of \$4,000, stating that while the superintendency of the buildings had been turned

2

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

over to Public Buildings and Grounds, yet the work of various sorts has so increased that the chief clerk's duties were as onerous as ever, due to the Budget, the many calls for information, the work of the various coordinators incident to and growing out of the Budget, Public Buildings and Grounds, and various other things, so that the chief clerk's duties are really greater than ever before. I asked, therefore, that the salary be continued at \$4,000, pointing out that several other departments, such as the Treasury Department and the Post Office Department, pay \$4,000, and that one of our own bureaus, the Patent Office, had the salary of its chief clerk fixed by Congress last year at \$4,000. The work is there, and the chief clerk really earns that salary; so I am asking the committee to maintain the salary of the chief clerk at \$4,000 instead of \$3,500, as proposed on line 8, page 2, of the House bill.

Senator SMOOT. That was estimated for by the Budget?

Mr. FINNEY. That was approved by the Budget; yes, sir.

AUTOMOBILE FOR SECRETARY.

On page 4 of the bill as passed by the House, line 1, you will find a provision authorizing the purchase, for the use of the Secretary of the Interior, of an automobile at a cost not to exceed \$5,000, and authorizing also the exchange of the present old car.

Last year I asked the Budget for an appropriation for a new car for the Secretary. The Budget stated that they would give us an old War Department car, and refused to recommend the appropriation requested. They did insert in the bill an item authorizing us to secure a car from the War Department. I was only able to get an old open Cadillac car which was rather badly weather-worn, which had been standing in some camp out in Ohio; and Mr. Fall has been using that part of the time, and trying to use an old Packard which was purchased when Mr. Lane was Secretary of the Interior, and which is so badly run down that it will not be able to run much longer unless we spend \$800 or \$1,000 in repairs. So the plan was to trade in one of these old cars, or both of them if necessary, and pay a cash bonus, and get a new car. That was authorized by the Budget, and passed by the House.

The request I desire to make is that in line 1, page 4, after the figures "\$5,000," the words "immediately available" be inserted, so that we can get the car immediately. Otherwise, we may have to spend a lot of money on repairing the old car.

I am going to ask the chief clerk, Mr. Harvey, to discuss the contingent expenses, and then call on the various bureau chiefs in the order of the bill.

Senator SMOOT. You may proceed, Mr. Harvey.

STATEMENT OF JOHN HARVEY, CHIEF CLERK, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

Mr. HARVEY. Mr. Chairman, on page 3, line 24, under "Contingent expenses," we should like to have the words "telephone service" inserted after the word "telegraphing." In 1924 that will be one of the principal items of expenditure from our contingent fund, on

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

3

account of transferring back to us the telephone service of the Interior Department from the superintendent of the State, War, and Navy Department buildings.

The Budget Office approved an appropriation of \$96,000 for our contingent fund. The House Appropriations Committee reported out an allowance of only \$79,200. We believe that that will not be sufficient, on account of the very small appropriation we have this year—only \$60,000.

Senator SMOOT. They gave you an increase of \$19,200.

Mr. HARVEY. Senator, that is due to the fact that in 1924 we will have a lot of expenses to take care of that the superintendent of the State, War, and Navy Department buildings is paying for this year out of his appropriation. Now they are transferring that service back to us.

Senator SMOOT. What service?

Mr. HARVEY. It includes the telephone service through the Interior Department switchboard, amounting to about \$18,000 a year, and it includes laundry and towel service for all of our department buildings, which we estimate will cost \$2,450 during 1924. That is for laundering, towels, purchase of new towels, and the clock-regulation service in the Interior Department Building, which, it is estimated, will cost \$500.

Senator SPENCER. Who has been paying for that?

Mr. HARVEY. The superintendent of the State, War, and Navy Department buildings, for which we estimated \$500 for 1924. The total of those items according to our estimates was \$21,450, but the total amount as we understand the bill as reported by the House committee is only \$14,200.

Senator SMOOT. \$19,200. Do you mean that you take off the \$5,000 for the automobile?

Mr. HARVEY. That is additional. That makes the \$19,200. So we feel that on account of the increased needs of our bureaus for filing furniture and typewriters and other office equipment we will need \$9,000 additional in 1924 to take care of their contingent expenses—the eight bureaus of the Interior Department, as well as the Secretary's office, in the division of the Office of the Secretary. The appropriation of \$60,000 this year was so small that we could allot to the bureaus only about 50 per cent of the amount heretofore allotted for contingent expenses.

Senator SMOOT. They got along with it all right, did they not?

Mr. HARVEY. They have had to, Senator. We simply allotted the bureaus according to the appropriation made, and we see now that they are having to do without supplies that they ought to have. We are having to disapprove requisitions nearly every day on account of the small appropriation.

Senator HARRIS. Is it interfering with any important work?

Mr. HARVEY. We think it is. We have had, for instance, to borrow furniture for Pension Office because our appropriation would not stand the purchase of it.

Senator CURTIS. Did you not do that, too, because there was some temporary work there that probably will expire soon?

Mr. HARVEY. Yes, Senator; but when we buy furniture and the need for it ceases to exist we turn it back to the General Supply Committee.

4 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Senator SMOOT. What did you buy furniture for? Could you not get it from what we have on hand—the Supply Committee?

Mr. HARVEY. We did borrow, through the Treasury Department, of the General Supply Committee, desks, chairs, etc.

Senator SMOOT. You did not purchase them, though?

Mr. HARVEY. No.

Senator SMOOT. We would not want you to purchase any so long as we have the mass on hand that we have.

Mr. HARVEY. Ordinarily, in procuring supplies from the General Supply Committee, our appropriation must be charged with what we get.

Senator SMOOT. You are asking for about \$21,450 more than you had last year, on account of telephone service, laundry, towels, purchase of same, clock regulation, and ice.

Mr. HARVEY. Yes.

Senator SMOOT. That would make \$81,450. Is that what you want? You also wanted \$5,000 for the automobile. That would be \$26,450.

Senator SPENCER. That would make \$86,450, instead of \$79,000?

Senator SMOOT. Yes.

Mr. HARVEY. We are asking what the Budget office approved, which is \$96,000.

Senator SMOOT. Yes; I know that is what you are asking for, but we want to get at what you really need, not what you are asking for.

Mr. HARVEY. The House committee, in reporting out our bill, allowed only \$12,000 for telephone expenses in the Interior Department Building.

Senator SMOOT. What I am saying is that last year you had \$60,000, and this year you want \$18,000 for telephoning, you want \$2,450 for laundering towels, purchase of towels, etc., you want \$500 for clock-regulation, you want \$500 for ice, and you want \$5,000 for an automobile. That is \$26,450.

Mr. HARVEY. We are asking for \$9,000 additional for supplying the bureaus, Senator.

Senator SMOOT. We know what you want, then.

Mr. HARVEY. Yes, sir.

FASTENERS FOR USE IN PATENT OFFICE.

On page 4, line 21, where an appropriation of \$75,000 is made for stationery, we should like to have that increased \$2,000 on account of having to purchase a certain style of fasteners to be used in the Patent Office.

Senator SMOOT. What line is that?

Mr. HARVEY. Line 21, page 4.

Senator SMOOT. That \$75,000?

Mr. HARVEY. Yes, sir. The Budget Office approved an increase of \$5,000 for that item, and it was disapproved by the House committee. Since our original estimate was made we have found that we can purchase those fasteners for \$2,000 instead of \$5,000, and we are asking now only an increase of \$2,000.

I have here some exhibits, which will explain why we want those particular fasteners. This [producing sample] is the kind that is being used now. We find that that destroys the paper of these original application files. About 125,000 of them are received annually.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

5

Those staples destroy the papers. They take up probably 20 per cent additional room in the files.

Senator SMOOT. What is the new style?

Mr. HARVEY. This [producing sample] is the new style, which makes it possible to file the papers in less space, to handle them more conveniently, and to prevent destroying them.

Senator SMOOT. Why does one destroy them and the other not?

Mr. HARVEY. In pulling them from the files, you see, the protruding head of that fastener hangs onto other papers, and the experience of the Patent Office has shown that valuable records are being destroyed. They pull about 500 of these cases from the files every day.

Senator CURTIS. I should think you had better not have any fasteners at all, but just take off the whole thing.

Mr. HARVEY. These papers are permanent, valuable records, and they have to be filed away in folders, and they must be fastened or else they will become lost.

Senator CURTIS. I should think you could have a lap over, as we do with some of our papers here.

Mr. HARVEY. Those files are drawn by patent lawyers who want to investigate the history of the cases, and it is necessary to have them bound in permanent form.

Senator SMOOT. You want \$77,000 for that purpose?

Mr. HARVEY. Yes, sir. That will necessitate a change in one other place there. On page 5, line 7, that \$75,000, you see, is repeated. We would like to have that changed to \$77,000.

INSPECTORS.

On page 6, line 11, an appropriation is made for traveling expenses of two special inspectors and six inspectors. Heretofore, those appropriations have been carried in two items; but at the request of the House committee we combined them into one paragraph in the bill this year, and have combined the amounts of the appropriations. We should like to have you strike out "\$10,000" in line 11 and insert "\$13,000."

Formerly, for a number of years, we were given an appropriation of \$17,300 for this service. The appropriation for the current year is \$14,000. The estimate for 1924 was the same, but the Budget office allowed but \$13,000. The expenditures for several years have been below the average, for the reason that vacancies have existed in seven of these inspectors' positions for periods ranging from a few days to six or eight months, and in the case of the two special inspectors' positions we have had a vacancy there during all of the fiscal year 1922; and for that reason it has made these expenditures very much below the average.

Senator SMOOT. The House gave you \$10,000?

Mr. HARVEY. The House gave us \$10,000. The appropriation for the current year is \$14,000. We should like to have the amount that was approved by the Bureau of the Budget, \$13,000. There is only one vacancy in those positions at the present time, and we must have a sufficient appropriation for paying per diem and all other traveling expenses to enable these men to do their work.

Senator CURTIS. If you can get along without that one, do you not think it would be a good idea to leave it vacant?

6

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Mr. HARVEY. Senator, we are leaving positions vacant when the services of the men are not needed. As I say, there were vacancies in all of those inspectors' positions during the fiscal year 1922, for varying periods.

I believe that is all.

Mr. FINNEY. I want to take up now the item of printing and binding, on page 6. Mr. Glass, in charge of printing and binding for the department, will present that to you.

**STATEMENT OF CHARLES F. GLASS, CHIEF OF DIVISION
PUBLICATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.**

PRINTING AND BINDING.

Mr. GLASS. Mr. Chairman, I may make the statement that this year our appropriation has been reduced \$39,000, based on an anticipated reduction of about 7 per cent in the cost of printing, as stated by the Government Printing Office, which has never materialized.

Senator SMOOT. Oh, yes, it has.

Mr. GLASS. I called up the Printing Office this morning to ask them if there would be any reduction this year.

Senator SMOOT. There have been only two days of this year so far.

Mr. GLASS. I mean the fiscal year.

Senator SMOOT. It is more than 7 per cent.

Mr. GLASS. They said that while once in a while perhaps they could reduce it a couple of per cent, there are other items that increase it probably 5 per cent, and they could not see any chance for any reduction this year.

Senator SMOOT. Over the year previous?

Mr. GLASS. Yes; over last year.

Senator SMOOT. I know that there is a reduction.

Mr. GLASS. Well, that is what they say.

Senator SMOOT. I do not know who told you that, but I know that there is a reduction.

Mr. GLASS. I know that on the basis of the bills we get from the Printing Office there is no reduction. It costs us just as much, and sometimes more, for the same jobs.

Mr. FINNEY. Senator Smoot knows more about it than we do, so go ahead with the next item.

Senator SMOOT. Go ahead and tell us what you want.

Mr. GLASS. In regard to the item of \$145,000 for printing and binding for the Interior Department, on page 6, line 22, the law requires this year that all repay printing and binding that is now paid out of other appropriations for printing and binding shall be added in this one sum.

Senator SMOOT. That is what we have got it for now.

Mr. GLASS. No; that is the same as this year. We have \$32,930 worth of repay work that we are doing out of other appropriations this year which the law requires that we add on to this \$145,000, and have the printing and binding all together.

Senator SMOOT. You will have your money back for the repay work when you do it.

Mr. GLASS. The printing and binding has been taken out of those other appropriations.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

7

Senator CURTIS. It has been taken out and put in this one, following the same policy in all departments.

Senator SMOOT. That is what all of the bills are doing.

Mr. GLASS. That matter evidently has been overlooked by the House committee, and has not been added on to the \$145,000.

Senator SPENCER. What does it amount to?

Mr. GLASS. \$177,930.

Senator SPENCER. Additional?

Mr. GLASS. No; it will be \$32,930 additional. We desire to change the amount in line 22, page 6, to \$177,930.

Senator HARRIS. That is what you spent last year, is it?

Senator SMOOT. How much?

Mr. GLASS. \$177,930.

Senator SMOOT. No; I mean the difference would be how much?

Mr. GLASS. \$32,930. That is what we expended last year.

Senator SMOOT. For that repay work you get the money from the other departments. Why do you want an appropriation for it?

Mr. GLASS. It is taken out of the other appropriations this year.

Senator SMOOT. What appropriations?

Mr. GLASS. All other repay appropriations.

Senator SMOOT. No; we have every appropriation in every department of the Government here made in one lump sum now.

Mr. GLASS. Yes; but you have not added the amount of the cost of that work on this \$145,000.

Senator SMOOT. But you get your money back from the different departments.

Mr. GLASS. We can not do it any more after this year.

Senator SMOOT. Why not?

Mr. GLASS. Because the law required that all that repayment work be taken out of those appropriations and added on to this printing and binding appropriation.

Senator SMOOT. If they take it out of the appropriations made for the departments—

Mr. GLASS. The estimate is taken out; it is not estimated in those appropriations.

Mr. FINNEY. Our understanding is, Senator, that the House took those items out of the other appropriations, but did not add the amount to this \$145,000.

Senator SPENCER. Last year's appropriations were made in what departments, for what amounts?

Senator SMOOT. All the other departments.

Senator SPENCER. It is perfectly clear that if they were included in those amounts this year, there is no need of adding them to this \$145,000. If they were not, then your point that they should be added is good.

Mr. GLASS. They have not been added. The \$145,000 in the bill is the same as we have now. Not a cent has been added to it.

Senator SMOOT. That does not prove anything. Do you mean to say that the law is such now that anyone who wishes to have repay work done can have it done, and we are to make an appropriation for it here to you people?

Mr. GLASS. It will be all one item; it will be all one sum. There will not be any repay work after this, except by the Reclamation

8

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Service and a few other appropriations which are reimbursable, like the Government fuel yard and a few others.

Senator SPENCER. What are the appropriations made last year that are discontinued this year that will be available for you?

Mr. GLASS. The appropriations?

Senator SPENCER. The appropriations made last year that are not renewed this year, that were available for you last year, but that are not available for you this year?

Mr. GLASS. I have here a statement showing the expenditures from these appropriations, from July 1 to December 1, the first five months.

Senator SPENCER. All right.

Mr. GLASS. Do you want me to read all of this to you now?

Senator SPENCER. How many are there?

Senator CURTIS. Just state them briefly and turn them over to the reporter. We want them in the hearings.

Mr. GLASS. The amount expended out of this appropriation for the first five months of this year is \$28,948.37.

Senator PHIPPS. But do you not recover that from these departments for which you do the work?

Mr. GLASS. We do this year, but next year we will not. They will not be allowed to pay us next year.

Senator SMOOT. What departments are you speaking of now—the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines and the Patent Office?

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir.

Senator SMOOT. Just offices in your department?

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir; just in our department.

Senator SMOOT. Oh, well, even if you got all that the Budget allowed you, a million dollars, for that purpose, you could only ask for \$168,100, according to the House bill. The House gave you for the Patent Office \$670,000, and for the Geological Survey \$120,000, and for the Bureau of Mines \$41,900. That is \$831,900; and taking that from a million dollars, all that they gave you is \$168,100.

Mr. GLASS. That is not enough for the repay work.

Senator SMOOT. I do not understand what you mean by the repay work.

Mr. GLASS. Here is the list of the appropriations.

Senator HARRIS. Suppose we only give you \$145,000, as provided here, what can you do? What would you not be able to do which you have done in the past? What work will be interfered with?

Mr. GLASS. We will not be able to have any of this repay work done out of these other appropriations.

Senator SMOOT. What repay work have you reference to now?

Mr. GLASS. It is work of printing and binding done out of other appropriations than printing and binding. There is a list of them that you have there. One is the construction and operation of railroads in Alaska, and two or three other Alaskan appropriations in connection with the Alaskan railroads. Then there is the education of natives in Alaska; and the Office of Indian Affairs has five or six different appropriations.

(The list referred to by Mr. Glass, and directed by the subcommittee to be made part of the record, is as follows:)

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

9

Interior Department—Repay statement, July 1 to December 1, 1922.

Alaskan Engineering Commission:	
Construction and operation of railroads in Alaska, 1922.....	\$1,453.11
Maintenance and operation of railroads in Alaska, 1923.....	81.31
Construction and equipment of railroads in Alaska, 1923....	93.64
Total.....	\$1,518.06
Education, Alaska, education of natives of Alaska, 1923.....	96.42
Office of Indian Affairs:	
Purchase and transportation, Indian supplies, 1923.....	4,405.32
Indian moneys, proceeds of labor, Fort Peck Agency, 1923..	4.70
Indian school, Lawrence, Kans., 1923.....	.84
Indian school, support, 1923.....	348.07
Standing Rock Reservation, 3 per cent fund, 1923.....	30.15
Irrigation, Indian reservation (reimbursable), 1923.....	118.38
Total.....	4,913.52
Board of Indian Commissioners, expenses of Indian Commis- sioners, 1923.....	9.73
National Park Service, McKinley National Park, 1923.....	45.00
Bureau of Pensions:	
Salaries and expenses of additional employees, 1923.....	4,362.71
Miscellaneous expenses, 1923.....	3,108.08
Total.....	7,560.79
Reclamation Service, reclamation fund, 1923.....	12,924.43
Geological Survey:	
Geologic surveys, 1923.....	74.12
Topographic surveys, 1923.....	174.46
Geologic maps of United States, 1923.....	2.25
Mineral resources of Alaska, 1923.....	58.15
Mineral resources of United States, 1923.....	126.65
Gauging streams, 1923.....	881.70
Total.....	1,217.29
Bureau of Mines:	
Enforcement of oil-leasing act, 1922-23.....	360.52
Maintenance and operation of fuel yards, District of Colum- bia, 1923.....	120.70
Total.....	491.22
General Land Office, surveying public lands, 1923.....	111.91
Grand total.....	28,948.37

Report of printing done in the field, first quarter, 1923.

Alaskan Engineering Commission:	
Anchorage, Alaska.....	\$145.43
Seattle, Wash.....	1,105.65
General land office, Great Falls, Mont.....	20.00
Hawaii, Governor of Hawaii.....	47.50
Total.....	1,318.58

Senator SMOOT. These matters have always been taken into account here in past appropriations, out of a lump sum for printing for the Interior Department.

Mr. GLASS. No; they have been paid out of these appropriations, and they are paid out of these appropriations this year. Next year there will not be any printing and binding in these appropriations to pay for this work. Unless we add it on to our regular printing and binding, we can not do that work.

Senator SPENCER. Tell me if I have that clear. You expended for your own work, for your own department, last year, \$145,000?

10 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir.

Senator SPENCER. That you have in the bill this year for your own work. Now, last year for the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines, and the Patent Office—and any others?

Mr. FINNEY. And the Alaskan Engineering Commission and others.

Senator SPENCER. And the Alaskan Engineering Commission and others—you did work amounting to \$32,930, and you were repaid by those departments for that work?

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir.

Senator SPENCER. And they had an appropriation that enabled them to repay it?

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir.

Senator SPENCER. This year, in their appropriations, there is no provision made by which they can repay you for any work that you may do for them?

Mr. GLASS. The law provided that the printing and binding should be cut out of those appropriations.

Senator SPENCER. And you estimate that there will be need for the same amount of printing for those departments this year as last year?

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir.

Senator SPENCER. And if you do it, and there is no appropriation here, the appropriation to them having been cut off, it can not be paid for.

Senator SMOOT. But, Senator, they did not have \$145,000 just for the work outside of the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines, and the Patent Office.

Senator SPENCER. Did the \$145,000 last year include this extra work?

Senator SMOOT. In this bill is included \$145,000 for printing for the Department of the Interior, the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines, and the Patent Office.

Senator SPENCER. Last year?

Senator SMOOT. No; this year.

Senator SPENCER. That is what he said.

Senator PHIPPS. No; that excepts those.

Mr. GLASS. They are excepted this year, too.

Senator SMOOT. Yes; but now we give the Geological Survey \$120,000, we give the Bureau of Mines \$41,000, and we give the Patent Office \$30,000, making \$191,000. We increase the Geological Survey \$1,000. We increase it notwithstanding the fact that last year they paid out of the printing here for the repay work. There is not anything said here about repay work, is there?

Mr. GLASS. In that?

Senator SMOOT. Yes.

Mr. GLASS. It should be there.

Senator SMOOT. But is it?

Mr. GLASS. It was submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, but the Bureau of the Budget did not submit it to the House.

Senator SMOOT. The language of the bill is:

For the United States Geological Survey: For engraving the illustrations necessary for the annual report of the director and for the monographs, professional papers, bulletins, water-supply papers, and the report on mineral resources, and for printing

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

11

and binding the same publications, of which sum not more than \$45,000 may be used for engraving, \$110,000; for miscellaneous printing and binding, \$10,000; in all, \$120,000.

There is nothing there about repay work.

Senator SPENCER. "Miscellaneous printing and binding" will certainly cover it.

Mr. GLASS. When we get past this first item, I will give you something on that.

Senator SMOOT. Here is the item with regard to the Bureau of Mines:

For the Bureau of Mines, including printing, engraving of illustrations, and binding bulletins, technical papers, miners' circulars, and other publications to carry out the purposes of the act of February 23, 1913, \$29,000; for miscellaneous printing and binding, \$12,000; in all, \$41,000.

For the Patent Office: For printing the weekly issue of patents, designs, trademarks, prints, and labels, exclusive of illustrations; and for printing, engraving illustrations, and binding the Official Gazette, including weekly, bi-monthly, and annual indices, \$640,000.

Mr. GLASS. The Patent Office has no repay work at all.

Senator SMOOT (reading):

For miscellaneous printing and binding, \$30,000; in all, \$670,000.

For this year we appropriated only \$585,000 and \$26,000 for those last two purposes. Therefore we increased that about \$59,000 in the appropriation here over that of last year.

Mr. FINNEY. It is very evident, Senator, that the \$145,000 does not include the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines, and the Patent Office items; but, nevertheless, the fact is that this year the various bureaus and offices have funds in their appropriations from which we did printing for them, what is called repay work. This year it has been forbidden to make those appropriations under the head of these various bureaus, and consequently their estimates for this year do not carry those amounts that were spent last year for printing. If we are going to do that printing for them, we shall have to have it added to this \$145,000 item.

Senator SPENCER. When they put in there an item of \$10,000 for miscellaneous printing, why does not that enable them to have printing done by you and have them repay you for the work?

Mr. FINNEY. It would if we had a large enough amount. That is not a large enough amount, however.

Senator SPENCER. It is just as much as you had last year.

Senator SMOOT. \$10,000 and \$12,000 and \$30,000 makes \$52,000 for this miscellaneous printing and binding.

Senator PHIPPS. The four items total \$976,000, against \$1,000,000 that is estimated for.

Senator SPENCER. Of course it is very clear, when they come to you to do some printing for them, that if they have not got the money to pay for it you are not going to do it.

Mr. FINNEY. Their work will not be done.

Senator SPENCER. That throws it back there; but as the appropriation reads here, as far as I have read it, it seems to me they have the same total that they had last year and an increase. Therefore, if they could pay for it last year, and there is no prohibiting legislation, why can they not pay for it this year?

Mr. GLASS. Because the amount is not included in the other appropriations. They have not included it.

Senator SPENCER. But they did not include it last year, specifically.

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir; they did, last year and this year, too. We are paying for that repay work out of other appropriations this year.

Senator SPENCER. Under what head—"Miscellaneous printing?"

Mr. GLASS. Here is a list of them—a whole lot of appropriations.

Senator SPENCER. Does it come under "Miscellaneous printing?"

Mr. GLASS. Yes, sir. The Alaskan appropriation also includes that this year. It never did before.

Senator SPENCER. I do not see where this statement adds anything to our information. Take "Education, Alaska;" take "Expenses of Indian Commissioners, \$9.73": Where does that give us any light?

Mr. GLASS. That is the amount expended for the first five months.

Senator SPENCER. For printing?

Mr. GLASS. This year.

Senator CURTIS. I think this trouble all comes out of the fact that the Budget tried to get the printing all in one item, and probably overlooked this.

Mr. GLASS. They overlooked it.

Senator CURTIS. Anything they have overlooked we ought to put in here.

Mr. GLASS. We shall have to have it or we can not do the work.

Senator SMOOT. You appeared before the House committee and testified there, and made the same statement that you are making now. The House did not see fit to do what you wanted. Tell me where there is any provision that is preventing you from taking money for repay work.

Mr. GLASS. The legislative act of last year, which you passed, requiring that all appropriations for printing and binding included in other appropriations be stricken out and added onto this printing and binding appropriation, in order to get the printing and binding all together in one place. Instead of paying it out of a hundred different appropriations—a little here and a little there—you wanted it all together. Now we have taken it out of those other appropriations, and we want to add it onto the printing and binding appropriation, and it has not been done so far, and in order to do that work we shall have to have it added on.

Mr. FINNEY. Mr. Glass, can you get up a statement to give the committee, showing exactly what the amounts were in our bureaus last year which were taken care of in the different bureau appropriations and which will now have to be taken care of here?

Mr. GLASS. Certainly.

Senator CURTIS. Suppose you do that.

Mr. GLASS. The next item there that I should like to speak about is the Geological Survey item. On page 7, line 10, we have \$1,850 worth of repay printing which we might add onto that \$10,000, making \$11,850; total, \$121,850.

Senator SMOOT. We have given you now \$1,000 more than you had last year.

Mr. GLASS. That does not help the miscellaneous printing and binding. We have been having \$175,000.

Senator SMOOT. Then we will take that amount off the \$110,000. We certainly are not going to give you any more than the House has given you here, because that is \$1,000 more than you had for last year.

Mr. FINNEY. How about that, Mr. Smith?

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

13

Mr. GEORGE OTIS SMITH. There is confusion, Senator, in the fact that deductions have been made in certain field appropriations for the Geological Survey. For instance, geology as reported was \$351,900. That represents a \$352,000 request with \$100 deducted. In topography it is \$345,500, which represents a deduction of \$500 out of our field funds for that purpose. I think you are talking here about Washington expenditures, not field expenditures.

Senator SMOOR. It says here:

For engraving the illustrations necessary for the annual report of the director and for the monographs, professional papers, bulletins, water-supply papers, and the report on mineral resources, and for printing and binding the same publications, of which not more than \$15,000 may be used for engraving, \$110,000; for miscellaneous printing and binding, \$10,000; in all, \$120,000.

They gave you every dollar that the Budget recommended.

Mr. SMITH. But they deducted that, sir, from the field appropriations to make up that amount of the \$10,000 miscellaneous appropriations, apparently.

Mr. GLASS. That is the amount we are paying out of those appropriations this year.

Senator SMOOR. Your field appropriation is in this appropriation bill; it was in there last year, too; so the fact of the matter is that the House gave the Geological Survey \$1,000 more than was given to it last year.

Mr. GLASS. We have \$1,850 more work to do this year than we had last year which we will not have next year unless you add the money on.

Senator SMOOR. We will take the \$1,800 off the \$110,000 and add it to the \$10,000 if you want us to do that.

Senator CURTIS. Can you not cut off enough of this stuff you are sending up here to Members who do not use it to make up that amount? I will venture the assertion that every Senator, except those who come from irrigation States, has 10,000 irrigation bulletins that he never uses, never looks at, never has any request for, and they are dumped in the wastebasket.

Mr. GLASS. If they got anything they do not need and have not any use for, they could send it back to the department.

Senator CURTIS. Why should they send it back? They have not time to look over documents and send them back. The truth of it is that you people ought not to send anything to us unless we ask you for it. That is the proper thing to do. I have not had a request for an irrigation document for four years, and I think I have 10,000 of them to my credit up here.

Senator SPENCER. The economical way to do that is to send out a notice to the Senate as to what you have that is available on request. When the request comes, it can be filled; but to send them without a request does precisely what Senator Curtis indicates.

Senator SMOOR. Let me ask this question: Would you prefer to have this appropriation for miscellaneous printing and binding made \$11,800, and deduct the \$1,800 from the \$110,000, or leave it the way it is now?

Mr. FINNEY. I should like to have the director answer that question.

Mr. SMITH. I am not sufficiently familiar with that. I thought you had a special appropriation for miscellaneous printing in Wash-

14 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

ington in addition to the publication of reports. I thought there was previously \$10,000—

Mr. FINNEY. \$8,000 last year.

Mr. SMITH. \$8,000? Then the \$2,000 is included?

Senator SMOOT. I do not know what you allotted for that purpose, but your total appropriation was \$119,000.

Mr. FINNEY. I do not understand that it is.

Senator SMOOT. I think so.

Mr. SMITH. That \$2,000 is evidently an increase.

Senator SMOOT. They have \$1,000 more than they had last year.

Mr. FINNEY. I suggest, Mr. Glass, that you go on to the next item now.

Mr. GLASS. The next item is the Bureau of Mines, on page 7, line 14, where we should like to have the amount increased from \$20,000 to \$41,000.

Mr. FINNEY. The director is here. I should like to have him explain why he wants that.

(By direction of the subcommittee, the following table, taken from pages 65 and 66 of the House hearings on this bill, is made part of the record at this point:)

Repay printing and binding paid for from other appropriations than printing and binding during the fiscal year 1922, estimated expenditures for the fiscal year 1923, and estimates for the fiscal year 1924, which should be added to the appropriation for printing and binding, Department of the Interior, for the fiscal year 1924, in accordance with public act No. 171, page 17, approved March 20, 1922.

Bureau or office.	Esti- mates, 1924.	Esti- mated expendi- tures, 1923.	Expendi- tures, 1922.
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.			
Classification of lands.....			\$18.46
Gauging streams.....	\$500.00	\$600.00	733.02
Geologic maps of United States.....			19.82
Topographic surveys.....	500.00	500.00	200.77
Mineral resources of United States.....	750.00	780.00	548.92
Geologic surveys.....	100.00	100.00	500.23
Mineral resources of Alaska.....			58.00
Total.....	1,850.00	2,000.00	2,110.94
BUREAU OF MINES.			
Enforcement of oil leasing act.....	2,700.00	2,000.00	1,299.89
Test fuel, Bureau of Mines.....			123.90
Maintenance and operation of Government fuel yards, District of Columbia.....	(1)	300.00	252.83
Expenses, mining experiment stations, Bureau of Mines.....			88.34
An act to promote the mining of coal, phosphates, oil, oil shales, gas, and sodium on the public domain, approved Feb. 25, 1920 (H. R. 15962, Repl. No. 803).....			600.69
Total.....	2,700.00	2,800.00	2,367.61
BUREAU OF PENSIONS.			
Salaries and expenses, employees' retirement act.....	2,800.00	2,600.00	1,787.01
Salaries and expenses, additional employees.....		6,047.00	193.83
Investigation of pension cases.....			128.25
Miscellaneous expenses, Pension Office (incident to monthly payment of pensions).....	5,500.00	5,586.00	
Total.....	8,000.00	13,733.00	2,110.02
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.			
Rules and regulations, Hot Springs National Park.....			584.05
Yellowstone National Park.....			9.71
Protection of national monuments.....			57.99
Lafayette National Park.....			278.11
McKinley National Park.....		45.00	
Total.....		45.00	929.86

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

15

Repay printing and binding paid for from other appropriations than printing and binding during the fiscal year 1922, estimated expenditures for the fiscal year 1923, and estimates for the fiscal year 1924, which should be added to the appropriation for printing and binding, Department of the Interior, for the fiscal year 1924, in accordance with public act No. 171, page 17, approved March 20, 1922—Continued.

Bureau or office.	Esti- mates, 1924.	Esti- mated expendi- tures, 1923.	Expendi- tures, 1922.
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.			
War mineral relief.....			914.19
Buildings and grounds, dairy equipment, St. Elizabeths Hospital.....			37.11
Howard University buildings.....			331.60
Total.....			982.90
Contingent expenses, Territory of Alaska.....	\$1,200.00	\$9,600.00	178.85
Contingent expenses, Territory of Hawaii.....	700.00	6,000.00	157.28
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.			
Indian moneys, proceeds of labor, San Carlos Indians.....			8.43
Indian moneys, proceeds of labor, Fort Totten Agency.....			75.62
General expenses, Indian Service.....	500.00	500.00	29.70
Indian moneys, proceeds of labor, Tongue River Agency.....			8.90
Standing Rock Reservation, 3 per cent fund.....			60.51
Education, Sioux Nation, South Dakota.....			54.10
Relieving distress and prevention, etc., of diseases among Indians.....			48.18
Suppressing liquor traffic among Indians.....		200.00	159.17
Purchase and transportation, Indian supplies.....	6,500.00	6,500.00	7,045.44
Indian schools, support.....	500.00	500.00	531.05
Irrigation, Indian reservations, reimbursable.....	(1)	500.00	399.69
Industrial work and care of timber.....			17.66
Diversion dam, Gila River Reservation, Ariz.....			15.93
Sacaton diversion dam and bridge, F-5.....			9.31
Total.....	7,500.00	8,200.00	8,432.61
GENERAL LAND OFFICE.			
Contingent expenses of Land Office.....	4,750.00	4,750.00	4,261.20
Salaries and contingent expenses, offices of surveyors general.....	440.00	440.00	633.20
Cleaning Indian reservations, reimbursable.....	(1)	800.00	77.57
Surveying the public lands.....	400.00	200.00	324.54
Survey within land grants, reimbursable.....	(1)	200.00	77.50
Deposits by individuals for surveying public lands.....	(1)	400.00	2,756.60
Total.....	5,990.00	6,590.00	8,084.91
FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION.			
Federal Power Commission.....	(1)		2,437.40
BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS.			
Expenses of Indian commissioners.....	40.00	40.00	23.47
ALASKAN ENGINEERING COMMISSION.			
Construction and equipment of railroads in Alaska.....	650.00	650.00	
Construction and operation of railroads in Alaska.....		2,000.00	3,524.80
Maintenance and operation of railroads in Alaska.....	5,850.00	3,850.00	
Total.....	6,500.00	6,500.00	3,524.80
RECLAMATION SERVICE.			
Reclamation fund.....	(1)	25,000.00	21,553.85
EDUCATION, ALASKA.			
Education of natives of Alaska.....	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,587.34
Grand total.....	37,490.00	43,310.00	56,275.50

(1) Estimate for printing and binding not included in this estimate, but provided for in the estimates of the respective bureaus. (See page 323, Budget for 1924.)

16

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

STATEMENT OF H. FOSTER BAIN, DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF MINES.

PRINTING AND BINDING.

Mr. BAIN. Mr. Chairman, take first the repay item, because that clears up the thing.

Senator SMOOT. The Budget estimated for you \$29,000, and the House gave you \$29,000. For miscellaneous printing and binding you had last year \$10,000, and the House gave you \$12,000.

Mr. BAIN. We had last year \$10,000 there, and we had \$2,700 that we were permitted to pay out of the leasing item, which we will have no legal authority next year to pay—it is the blanks and forms in connection with the leasing act—and we had some money out of the fuel yard. Those things were taken into account in fixing that \$10,000 item.

As to the \$29,000 item, that covers our publications, our reports, our bulletins on how to build barriers in a mine if you are cut off by fire, and things like that, that we want to get out to the people. We have been tremendously behind on that work for a series of years. The material has been piling up, and it has seemed to us very bad business to spend money on an investigation and then not have the money to print the results of it. We have been doing our best to catch up. And perhaps in fairness I may say that the \$29,000 was fixed without any hearing from the Bureau of Mines by the Budget Bureau or the Secretary's office or the House Committee on Appropriations. This is the first time I have had an opportunity to present the matter.

Senator SMOOT. Did you not have a chance to present it to the Director of the Budget?

Mr. BAIN. No, sir. The only estimate we made this year was a total of \$63,000. When the matter came up before the Budget Commissioner, we were not there. We were not invited to be there. This is the first time I have had a chance to make a presentation of the matter. It is incident to this change of system, you see, and a misunderstanding, not thinking ahead as to what may come about.

Senator SMOOT. Who suggested to the Budget that you have for miscellaneous items an increase of \$2,000 over last year, and that you have \$29,900 for the technical papers?

Mr. BAIN. I do not know, Senator.

Senator SMOOT. Certainly somebody did from the Bureau of Mines.

Mr. BAIN. The Secretary has sent up a letter giving as nearly as we can the items, but it did not come from the Bureau of Mines. The Bureau of Mines has had no opportunity except its original request last July, when we made an estimate of \$63,000 as to our minimum needs for next year.

Senator CURTIS. You itemized that, did you?

Mr. BAIN. Yes, sir; we presented first a general amount. Then we presented later an estimated itemized amount, and all the rest of it has been taken care of without any calling upon us.

Senator CURTIS. Do you know whether or not it was reduced because of the fact that they wanted to reduce the appropriations so many million dollars, and that so much was taken off of your

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 17

department and so much taken off of other departments? Was that the cause of it?

Mr. BAIN. That is my impression, that they wanted to get a good round sum. The only sum which was presented to Secretary Finney to O. K. was a total of \$1,000,000; and then, in connection with that, this was cut, so far as we can see, without any real consideration of the needs of this particular bureau.

Senator SMOOT. Mr. Bain, in your letter to Secretary Fall, you state:

The bureau's printing appropriation for the present fiscal year is \$47,000, which does not include the printing of forms, etc., used in the leasing work and paid for out of the appropriation for that work. The printing amount proposed here for 1924, including all printing on account of leasing work, is \$41,000. This is a decrease of \$8,000 from the amount for the present year, and a decrease of \$22,000 from the amount of the bureau's estimate.

You want that increased \$8,000 then?

Mr. BAIN. Senator, the very best that I can do on an estimate that will enable us to keep current is to give us a total of \$57,700. That would involve an increase of \$2,700 on the \$12,000 item.

Senator SMOOT. You are asking for a great deal more than you had last year.

Mr. BAIN. No, sir.

Senator SMOOT. \$47,000 is what you had.

Senator SPENCER. But they had some other funds available.

Mr. FINNEY. We had \$2,700 out of the leasing fund.

Senator SMOOT. They had \$37,000 and \$10,000. That is \$47,000.

Mr. BAIN. We had \$13,000 in addition to that, which arose in this way: The year before, the Printing Office was so busy that it could not do the work, and so there was reappropriated and carried over not only the work that had been sent in, but the money which was sent in to pay for it.

Senator SMOOT. You will not have that work to do again. The Printing Office to-day is up closer to its work than it ever has been before.

Mr. BAIN. I am very glad to know it, too. It has helped us a lot.

Senator SMOOT. In fact, we are having a hard time to keep on even the men that we have there, and between 475 and 500 employees have been discharged. We have not got work enough to keep them all there now, so that you will not have any of the \$13,000 item this year.

Mr. BAIN. No; but the work that we have in view, and that we must do if we are to keep current, the very least that we can figure it, is \$55,000.

Senator SPENCER. Last year you spent \$60,000.

Mr. BAIN. Last year we actually spent \$60,000; yes, sir. That was an incident, as the Senator says. We want \$41,000 instead of \$29,000. That will take care of it.

Senator SMOOT. Then you want \$14,000 instead of \$12,000?

Mr. BAIN. Yes.

Mr. FINNEY. I may suggest, gentlemen, that if this investigation work, mine-safety and mine-rescue work, is worth doing, it seems as though the results ought to be made available to the public.

Senator SPENCER. Is the increase that you want all for the purpose of making public the results of investigations and examinations?

18 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Mr. BAIN. The \$14,000 is. By the way, in connection with that leasing work, you will appreciate, if you read the bill through, that that work is increasing tremendously, and we will have much more work to do next year than last year, so that it will be necessary to have additional forms and blanks for work of that sort.

Mr. FINNEY. That is revenue-producing work, of course. The more work we do, the more revenue we get from these leases and permits.

Senator SMOOT. Who is your next witness?

Mr. FINNEY. Governor Spry, of the General Land Office.

**STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM SPRY, COMMISSIONER OF
THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.**

SURVEYORS GENERAL.

Senator CURTIS. What page do you wish to call our attention to?

Commissioner SPRY. We will commence on page 10, line 22, commencing with the surveyor general of Alaska. We have been cut there, Mr. Chairman, on the clerical hire, approximately \$1,200 over last year. We submitted the same estimates for the coming year that we have been using for the current year. On account of lack of funds, we were forced to transfer one of our people down to Santa Fe, N. Mex. This was after the estimates were submitted. The probabilities are that we shall have to increase the force in Alaska to the amount that we are asking for, as we obtained it a year ago; so that we should like that amount restored, making the total \$12,300 instead of \$11,100. We should like the amount of \$1,200 restored so that we may prosecute the work in Alaska as it ought to be prosecuted.

Unfortunately, the House made a cut in pretty much all of our surveyors' general offices as it related to the clerical force. In Arizona they cut us only \$300, it is true; but we are doing a tremendous lot of work in Arizona, and there is no reason at all why we should not have the same amount that was appropriated a year ago, \$16,120, instead of the \$15,820 which the House allowed us. Why the cut of \$300 was made, I am sure I do not know. We need every dollar of what we have been using in the past.

In California they cut us \$1,500. We asked for the same amount of \$13,500 that we have been receiving in the past. They cut us to \$12,000. The work is still being prosecuted out there in the same manner that it always has been, and it simply means the discharge of one clerk in California unless we get that amount reinstated.

Out in Colorado, Senator Phipps's State, we asked for exactly the same amount, \$14,520, and we were cut \$3,420. Why that should have been done I can not explain. I understood, when we were discussing the matter with the subcommittee of the House, that the appropriation for clerical hire in all the offices of surveyors general was entirely satisfactory; but to suffer a cut at this time of \$3,420 in the clerical force in Colorado will very materially interfere with our efficiency there.

Senator PHIPPS. That is cut out of proportion to the other reductions that have been made.

Commissioner SPRY. There are New Mexico and Utah that are suffering similar cuts.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

19

In Idaho, for some reason or other, they made no cut at all. They left that entirely intact.

In Montana they cut us \$820.

In Nevada we were cut \$940.

All of this, by the way, is on clerical expense.

Senator SMOOR. What you want is the Budget estimate?

Commissioner SPRY. What I should like is what the Budget allowed us.

Mr. FINNEY. The same as we had last year.

Commissioner SPRY. In New Mexico, for instance, they cut us \$3,550. In Utah they cut us \$2,400. That is in the face of the fact that an additional \$50,000 was appropriated by the State of Utah, so that there is just 100 per cent more work to be done by the clerks in the Utah office than there would be if the State had not appropriated that amount. They cut us \$2,400, or a total of \$14,750, that we would like reinstated and put back to where the Budget left us. If we can get that we shall be well satisfied so far as the surveyors general are concerned.

Senator PHIPPS. That is practically keeping them all at the present figure.

Senator SMOOR. No; the Budget estimate.

Senator PHIPPS. Well, the Budget estimate, as I take it, is practically the same as the appropriation for the current year.

Commissioner SPRY. The same force and the same salary; yes, sir.

Senator PHIPPS. And last year they cut you in all of these offices.

Commissioner SPRY. They cut us even last year; but we can get along with that cut by playing one against the other, sometimes, in the matter of transferring clerks. Where we think we have a surplus in one place we can transfer a clerk to another, so that if we can be reinstated there we should appreciate it very much.

Senator SPENCER. Governor, the aggregate of those is something like \$220,000 or \$225,000. If you had that fund to give where it was necessary and to curtail where it was possible, could you not run all those offices on a very much less sum?

Commissioner SPRY. No, Senator; we could not. I do not know that we could save one single dollar.

Senator SMOOR. I would not vote to appropriate that way if they could.

Commissioner SPRY. No; the custom has been to appropriate by offices.

REGISTERS AND RECEIVERS.

On the matters of the registers and receivers, a cut was made there with the idea that Leadville, Colo., Gainesville, Fla., Guthrie, Okla., Lake View, Oreg., and Waterville, Wash., were to be eliminated. I do not know just how the department feels with reference to that. If they are eliminated we can save probably \$500 on each one of the registers and receivers that may be eliminated, but that is about all we can save.

Senator PHIPPS. You have authority to consolidate those officers. If you were to eliminate the Leadville office you would have quite a little additional expense to take care of the work in that territory, to say nothing of the great expense that would be put on the settlers for going to the nearest land office at Pueblo.

Commissioner SPRY. It would be really a greater expense than they are put to now.

Mr. FINNEY. I think the offices should be continued. All those offices are needed. Gainesville is the last office in the State of Florida. While the area of public land remaining is comparatively small, there is an immense amount of business transacted there. The people write in to the register and receiver for information as to land titles and as to the status of land.

Senator CURTIS. Have you not one at the capital of Florida?

Mr. FINNEY. No, sir; Gainesville is the only office in the State.

Senator PHIPPS. We would rather have you consolidate the register and receiver in Denver than to abandon the Leadville office, because we could possibly get along with one official in that office, and we could make a saving there.

Commissioner SPRY. We would prefer a consolidation of the two officers; but, for instance, take the work of Leadville and Pueblo: You would have to have an additional clerical force at Pueblo to take care of the Leadville business.

Senator PHIPPS. Anyhow, you would either have to authorize some one to hold hearings in Leadville, or go back and forth to get the information.

Commissioner SPRY. I am in favor of retaining the offices and consolidating the officers. If that can be done, it will economize and serve the public to much better advantage than to force them to go this additional distance to do business with the Land Office. We should like the amount fixed by the Budget continued, Senator.

Senator SMOOT. That was \$370,000?

Commissioner SPRY. \$370,000.

Senator SMOOT. No; the Budget figure was \$381,000.

Senator SPENCER. The House gave you \$370,000.

Commissioner SPRY. Yes; the Budget figure is \$381,000. I was a little mixed on my figures.

Senator SMOOT. In this provision, here, Leadville, Colo., Gainesville, Fla., Guthrie, Okla., Lakeview, Oreg., and Waterville, Wash., are consolidated.

Commissioner SPRY. That is, the offices.

Senator SMOOT. Yes; and you ought to save that money, Governor. I do not think that there is any doubt but that those offices ought to be consolidated.

Commissioner SPRY. I agree with you on that, Senator. There is no objection at all to that.

Senator SMOOT. That is the reason why they cut this from \$381,000 to \$370,000. Let us figure just what we would save in those five places by the consolidation, and then deduct it from the \$381,000.

Commissioner SPRY. At best it would save probably five times \$500, or \$2,500. That is all you pay your registers and receivers, aside from the fees which they earn through the business of the office.

Mr. FINNEY. It will depend, Governor, on the receipts. At Gainesville the receipts have been a little over \$4,000. If we consolidate the offices, and appoint one man, he would receive \$3,000. There would be a saving of \$1,000. It would vary, but it will save a few thousand dollars. We are perfectly willing, I think—at least, the Secretary is—to consolidate the jobs; but we want to keep the offices running, and leave one man in charge.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 21

Senator SMOOT. That is what this does, you know.

Mr. FINNEY. Yes, sir; that is it.

Senator PHIPPS. You had this year \$372,000; so that the cut is only \$2,000.

Senator SPENCER. But they had a deficiency appropriation of \$45,000.

Commissioner SPRY. That was on account of the 10 offices that we anticipated would be abolished, but which the Congress retained; so that we shall be satisfied, as I say, with the \$370,000.

DEPREDACTIONS ON PUBLIC TIMBER.

On page 14, commencing with "Depredations on public timber, protecting public lands," etc., we submitted an estimate of \$525,000, the same amount that was allowed us one year ago. The Budget cut us to \$500,000. The House cut us an additional \$15,000, leaving it at \$485,000 as a total for the entire expense of operating the Field Service. We should like that \$15,000 reinstated, and make it an even \$500,000, where the Budget left it. Our reason for being content with the \$500,000 was from the fact that a number of our special agents, through being offered higher salaries, have left our service and gone to other departments of the Government, and we have not appointed anyone to fill the vacancies, and for that reason we could get along after the Budget had made the cut of \$25,000. To cut into us another \$15,000, however, would necessitate our discharging some three or four of our special agents, and we can not very well get along without them; so that if we can be reinstated to the \$500,000 we shall be content.

SURVEYING PUBLIC LANDS.

The next and last item is on page 16, the surveying of public lands. We asked—and we have every reason to believe that we could use every dollar of it—\$750,000. We were cut one year ago.

Senator SMOOT. The Budget figure was \$699,600?

Commissioner SPRY. Yes. The Budget cut us \$50,400. That \$400, by the way, is deducted on account of the printing for that service which the department has carried, so that is reduced \$400 from the \$700,000. We were short last year; we were unable to meet the demands of the public in the matter of the public surveys by losing that \$50,000. The Budget placed us where we were two years ago by giving us the \$700,000. The House has cut it, if you will notice; and we should like to be restored to the \$700,000 in order that we might take up some of the slack work.

Senator SMOOT. \$699,600?

Commissioner SPRY. Yes; \$699,600. If we can get that amount, we shall be content. We would like more; we could use more, in fact; but we do not want to be unreasonable.

Senator PHIPPS. Governor Spry, I do not understand that anything is included here for checking up the surveys on the oil-shale lands and oil lands.

Commissioner SPRY. I was going to say, Senator, that we asked for \$100,000 in addition to the \$750,000, by the consent of the Secretary, for a resurvey of the oil-shale lands of the West, which

the Budget very promptly cut out. That work is absolutely necessary, particularly in Colorado. I presume we can spend \$50,000 alone in Colorado in a resurvey of the oil-shale lands.

Senator PHIPPS. It is just as necessary in Utah, as I understand.

Commissioner SPRY. I say, we could spend \$50,000. We could use \$100,000 in the West; this is to correct erroneous surveys that have been made in the years past, and we can not issue patents to these lands until such time as we can obtain a correct survey. It was for that purpose that we asked for the \$100,000 additional to the work of our general survey.

Senator PHIPPS. Of course I do not know what official of the department made a statement of the situation to the Budget officer, or whether the Budget acquired a correct understanding of the real situation out there.

Commissioner SPRY. I do not think they did, Senator, because the discussion of that matter was extremely brief.

Senator PHIPPS. As it comes to me, the necessity for doing that work is very great indeed; and I feel so strongly about it that, noticing that it was cut out by the Budget, I presented an amendment to the pending bill asking that that \$100,000 item be added for that specific purpose.

Commissioner SPRY. It can be used to very splendid advantage if we can get it.

Senator PHIPPS. The item of surveying is work which must be done, and it is work that should be commenced without further delay. People have been acquiring that property there, they have been developing the process of extracting the oil from the shale, and they do not like to go in on land where in some cases the lines are believed to be as much as from 3 to 4 miles out of the true line.

Commissioner SPRY. You can not do business, you can not incorporate companies, without a patent to your land; and, as you say, no one knows now where the lines will run, and in some cases in Colorado they are 3 or 4 miles apart.

Senator PHIPPS. These people take up that land. They mean to acquire it from the Government and pay for it. They go to great expense not only in erecting their reduction plants but in driving their tunnels and doing other excavating work, and then they may find that the land to which they think they have title is not theirs at all; it belongs to somebody else on account of the erroneous surveys previously made.

Commissioner SPRY. Yes; we are meeting those things all the time.

Senator HARRIS. I should think the sooner we begin that work, the better it will be.

Commissioner SPRY. We felt that way, Senator.

Senator PHIPPS. Even with this, you feel that if you had this \$700,000, in round figures, you would not even then be in position to undertake that oil resurvey work; do you?

Commissioner SPRY. No; we need that \$700,000 for work we have been doing in past years. This is additional work which we would take on—the resurvey of the oil-shale deposits there.

Senator PHIPPS. You want this \$700,000 plus the \$100,000 for the oil-shale survey, do you? I understand that you want practically \$700,000 in this item, plus \$100,000 for the oil-shale survey?

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 28

Commissioner SPRY. We should like to have that, and we can use it.

Mr. FINNEY. The Indian Office has one or two items it wants to present. Mr. Burke is here.

STATEMENT OF HON. CHARLES H. BURKE, COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DETERMINING HEIRS.

Commissioner BURKE. The first item that we are concerned about is on page 29, line 8. We should like to have a proviso added there that will increase, very slightly, the amount allowed for determining heirs. On page 212 of the House hearings you will find a statement as to the increase; and the purpose of it is to make the work of determining heirs entirely self-supporting. It ought to be self-supporting. The fees are nominal, and they are not quite sufficient.

Senator PHIPPS. Is this what we find on this printed slip, Mr. Commissioner?

Senator SPENCER (reading):

And provided further, That hereafter upon a determination of the heirs to any trust or restricted Indian property—

And so forth?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes, sir; on page 29.

Senator SPENCER. That is the proviso you want put in?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes, sir. That simply will make that work self-supporting, which it is not quite, now.

Senator SPENCER. Does it take any additional money?

Commissioner BURKE. No, sir.

Senator SMOOT. Why did not the House put it in.

Commissioner BURKE. I understood merely because they thought it was legislation on an appropriation bill.

Senator CURTIS. We would have to take the same course, and offer it on the floor. It is subject to a point of order.

Senator SMOOT. That is the only thing we can do. One objection would take it out.

Commissioner BURKE. I understand, but I think the committee will see that it is desirable. It does not cost anything. It simply increases the revenue; that is all.

Senator CURTIS. And it will make this work self-supporting.

Commissioner BURKE. It will make it self-supporting.

Senator SMOOT. I think it is proper, but the committee does not want to take a chance of putting this in. Some member of the committee can offer it on the floor, however.

Senator CURTIS. Yes.

Senator HARRIS. I do not believe there will be any opposition to this, Senator Curtis.

Senator CURTIS. We have been trying to have that work self-supporting.

Commissioner BURKE. It ought to be self-supporting.

24

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

SCHOOL FOR NAVAJO INDIAN CHILDREN, ARIZONA.

The next item we desire is on page 35, where we want to have incorporated an item for a school, to be known as the Theodore Roosevelt School, at the old Fort Apache Military Agency, which has been transferred to the Interior Department.

Senator SPENCER. What State is that in—Arizona?

Commissioner BURKE. Arizona. The only reason why it was not in the House bill was because the estimate had not gotten by the Bureau of the Budget at the time. The transfer did not take place early enough to enable us to get the estimate through the Bureau of the Budget.

Senator CURTIS. It has since been estimated for?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes, sir.

Senator SPENCER. How much is it?

Commissioner BURKE. Here is the item [handing typewritten amendment to the chairman of the committee].

Senator CURTIS. How much is it?

Commissioner BURKE. \$115,250. I want to say that we have a very splendid property there, and with a slight appropriation to make some changes that are necessary to convert it into a school we are going to get an institution that will take care of 350 of those Navajo children.

Mr. FINNEY. The building and equipment are practically all there, turned over to us by the War Department.

Senator SPENCER. Is that for the Navajo Indians?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes, sir; and we are anxious to get this.

Senator CURTIS. You are away behind in your obligations to them.

Commissioner BURKE. We certainly are. There are several thousand of them that are not in school.

Senator SMOOT. Is this a reimbursable fund?

Senator CURTIS. No; it is a gratuity, but it is carrying out an old treaty with those Indians which was made many, many years ago, and which never has been carried out.

Commissioner BURKE. We were obligated to provide schools for all of the children.

Senator SPENCER. Is not this legislation?

Senator CURTIS. It is carrying out existing law. It is not legislation at all.

Commissioner BURKE. There are nearly 8,000 of the Navajo children that are without schools at the present time, and we are under an absolute treaty obligation to provide schools for all of them.

Those are the only items we are interested in.

TRAFFIC IN INTOXICATING LIQUORS, ALASKA.

Senator CURTIS. I want to ask you a question or two. You have an item in here—I have just been looking for it, and do not find it—of \$15,000 for enforcing the prohibition act in Alaska. I had that matter up very fully in the committee—

Commissioner BURKE. Not in Alaska, Senator, I think.

Senator SPENCER. Among the Indians.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

25

Senator CURTIS. Is it not under the heading "Indians in Alaska" ?
Commissioner BURKE. That is not in our bureau. That is in the Bureau of Education.

Senator SPENCER. It is in this bill somewhere.

Commissioner BURKE. That is under Education.

Mr. FINNEY. It is probably under the Bureau of Education.

Senator CURTIS. I was going to say that we might as well settle that now. We do not need it, because I had a very full hearing before the subcommittee on the appropriation bill for the Department of Justice, and the evidence there showed that they really had more men than they needed to enforce prohibition in Alaska, and that they had this extraordinary number of men because of the great distances and the lack of railroad facilities. However, I will take up that matter with somebody else.

I want to ask you another question. I notice in the appropriations for the education of the Five Tribes——

Senator SMOOT. Let us decide whether we are going to strike that out or not.

Senator CURTIS. Wait until they get their man here.

Mr. FINNEY. On page 8, Senator, under the head of the Secretary's office, "Miscellaneous Items, Territory of Alaska," you will find the item. Mr. Harvey, are you familiar with that ?

Mr. HARVEY. No; Mr. Acker is the one who handled that, and he is not here.

Mr. FINNEY. Of course, if that is taken care of, we do not care to ask for it.

Senator PHIPPS. It is not estimated for—\$15,000.

Senator SMOOT. In the House hearings, on page 80, I find this:

TRAFFIC IN INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

Mr. CRAMTON. There is just one item remaining, as follows:

"Traffic in intoxicating liquors: For suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors among the natives of Alaska, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, \$15,000."

Mr. Acker. This item for the suppression of traffic in intoxicating liquors is carried for the current fiscal year with an appropriation of \$15,000, but it is omitted from the estimates for the coming fiscal year. What is the reason for that omission?

Mr. ACKER. That is omitted for the reason that the present officials are operating in conjunction with representatives of the Department of Justice, and the governor states that it would be desirable to have that entire service handled by the Department of Justice in 1924.

Mr. CRAMTON. You are referring to the prohibition enforcement unit under the Treasury Department?

Mr. ACKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. CRAMTON. That is the reason for the omission?

Mr. ACKER. Yes, sir. In that connection, I would like to read this telegram.

Mr. CRAMTON. You can insert it in the record.

(The matter referred to is as follows:)

JUNEAU, ALASKA, August 9, 1922.

M. R. VROCK,

Assistant to Secretary Interior Department, Washington, D. C.:

Impossible to effect any saving in our Federal appropriations unless it be in the appropriation for suppressing traffic in intoxicating liquors among the natives. In view of the creation of prohibition agents in Alaska the special officers are of doubtful need and will not be included in the Budget for 1924. At present they are working under the United States marshals. The positions might be arbitrarily discontinued at end of second quarter, thus saving in salaries and traveling expenses \$7,500. Contingent appropriation is inadequate to meet absolutely necessary expenditures. Budget Bureau approved \$12,500 and Senate committee concurred, but conferees reduced

26 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

amount to \$7,500. Recent damage to house by fire will mean a deficit in contingent appropriation. A few hundred dollars may be saved on legislature expenses, but this is problematical. The entire appropriation for protection of game will be required.

BONE, Governor.

Let us strike it out.

Senator CURTIS. If they need it, I do not mind it; but in all Alaska only eight cases were begun, and why should we make a big appropriation for Alaska and spend quite a number of thousand dollars on enforcement of the law there, with only eight cases begun in a year, and here you are adding \$15,000 more? Of course if it is needed I would say put in all you need.

Mr. FINNEY. Your impression was that the Department of Justice was prepared to take care of the situation?

Senator CURTIS. Yes.

Senator SPENCER. The same as in any other place.

Mr. FINNEY. If that is true, I have no objection to its being taken out here.

Senator SPENCER. It will relieve you of some responsibility.

Mr. FINNEY. Yes.

Senator SMOOT. Out it goes, then.

COMMON SCHOOLS FOR OKLAHOMA INDIANS.

Senator CURTIS. Now, I want to ask you a question about this item on page 58 for the common schools in the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Seminole Nations and the Quapaw Agency in Oklahoma. As has been stated many times, when that item was put in originally it started at \$500,000, and it was understood that it would be going on for only a few years. Two or three years ago we had a tacit understanding in the committee, when I had charge of the Indian bill, that that should be reduced \$25,000 every year until the appropriation was done away with. If the money is really needed, of course I think we ought to appropriate it, but if it is possible to carry out that agreement I think we ought to carry it out, because we gave to Oklahoma \$5,000,000 in lieu of lands for school purposes, and this extra money was given them because they did not have enough to supply the schools. I think Mr. Meritt will remember that with the consent of the representatives of the Oklahoma people there was an agreement that that should be reduced \$25,000 every year until it had disappeared entirely. Now, I notice no reduction this year. Is there one?

Mr. MERITT. No, sir; it is the same amount as was appropriated last year.

Senator CURTIS. Do you really need it? Of course, educating the Indians is something that I think we ought to do. The more education they have the better it will be for them.

Mr. MERITT. We complied, Senator, with the agreement that we were to reduce this item \$25,000 every year; but we have now reached the point where we feel that we can not reduce it further for the present in order to take care of the children in the Five Civilized Tribes who are in the public schools.

Senator CURTIS. Then I have no further questions.

Mr. MERITT. We very much need that entire \$150,000.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 27

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ON FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION, MONT.

Senator CURTIS. I should like to ask the department another question. I notice here, under "Montana," that you have made an enormous appropriation for the Flathead Indian Reservation. Of course I know that the department and the people up there are going on to finish those irrigation projects, but—

Senator HARRIS. What page is that, Senator?

Senator CURTIS. Page 44. I want to ask the department, however, if that amount of money really can be properly expended, and if the estimates for it can be justified at this time?

Mr. FINNEY. It can.

Senator SPENCER. Of course that is reimbursable.

Senator CURTIS. Yes; but it will be reimbursed in a thousand years from now.

Senator SMOOT. When we are dead, and our children are dead, and our grandchildren are dead.

Mr. FINNEY. This matter has had the personal consideration of Secretary Fall himself, as well as that of others in the department; and we honestly feel that we ought to have every cent of that appropriation. The situation is this: We have had an appropriation and authority, and we have been going along spending a small amount each year on that project. That is uneconomical. The overhead expenses are too great considering the amount of work we are able to do. Moreover, a lot of these lands have been disposed of, and there are settlers on there waiting for water; so that from every standpoint it is good business and good policy and good economy for us to get enough money so that we can really do some work and finish that project.

Senator SPENCER. Will this \$555,000 finish it?

Mr. FINNEY. No, sir. It will go a long way toward it, though.

Senator CURTIS. It will cost two or three million dollars more.

Mr. FINNEY. But we are able to do something, we are able to get somewhere, with \$500,000, to get something built and some water on some land, and begin to get some return.

Senator PHIPPS. You had \$200,000 last year. How much had you had prior to that?

Mr. FINNEY. We have been having from \$100,000 to \$200,000 a year for several years, and we can not do business satisfactorily in that way on a large project. We feel that we ought to have every cent of that money, and we were successful in convincing the Budget office and the House Committee that it was desirable and necessary.

Senator CURTIS. Yes; but the difficulty with that is, for instance, that you have paid out already \$4,000,000 for construction, and by that expenditure you have gotten 28,000 acres of land irrigated out of 103,000 acres under the construction work; cultivated by the Indians, 1,000 acres; cultivated by the white settlers, 27,000 acres. I think the only excuse on earth for this is the fact that the Government agreed to do this, and the white settlers purchased expecting to get it. I think there is a moral obligation there, or a legal obligation, to carry that out, but I do not think the showing justifies it at all. The expenditure is money thrown away so far as the Indian lands are concerned.

I just want to put this statement in here. I am not going to oppose this appropriation, but it does seem to me that the Depart-

ment ought to do something about getting more of that Indian land cultivated—rent it for something, or do something with it.

Commissioner BURKE. May I contribute just a word on that point?

Senator CURTIS. Yes.

Commissioner BURKE. I think both Senator Curtis and I were members of the House committee at the time this project was undertaken. When these lands were opened up to settlement, the surplus lands were disposed of under the homestead laws, and the settlers went in there with the assurance—

Senator CURTIS. With the positive assurance.

Commissioner BURKE. With the positive assurance that this reclamation project was going to be constructed. Now, I was there last year personally. I saw settlers who had been there for 11 years. They have managed to eke out an existence and have gotten along, paying for their lands, and they are without water yet. The Flathead project, in my opinion, is one of the best, next to the Yakima, that we have under the Indian Bureau, and eventually, in my judgment, it is going to pay out; and if we are going to continue it—and we certainly are under obligation to do it—the sooner you appropriate the money in order that it may be done quickly, to save overhead, in the interest of economy, the better. It is a good proposition.

Senator CURTIS. I do not intend to oppose it. I just wanted to know that the department was going on. I also wanted to impress upon them the fact that they should be more active, or have their local agents more active, in trying to get the Indian lands cultivated. There have been on that Montana reservation and other Indian reservations a large number of acres owned by the Indians that have not been cultivated, nothing coming from it, and the money is absolutely thrown away and wasted.

Senator HARRIS. You say the parties bought this land on the understanding that the project would be completed?

Senator CURTIS. Yes; there is no question about it.

Commissioner BURKE. The amount cultivated by the Indians is, as you say, small; but there is a very large area of Indian land under lease, and you know that it is very difficult to get an Indian actually to farm. He leases his land.

Senator CURTIS. That is the point I wanted to make. Of course Mr. Meritt will remember that we took this up with considerable interest a couple of years ago or three years ago, and the department then did agree that they would make extra efforts to lease the lands owned by the Indians, and I want to know if that is being done.

Mr. MERITT. We have made every effort to lease the lands.

RECLAMATION PROJECT IN IDAHO.

Senator CURTIS. Now there is another question I want to ask you. A year or two ago we had an item up in regard to the Idaho reclamation service. Has the department entered into any agreement with those Idaho landowners that they shall pay the small sum they agreed to pay?

Mr. MERITT. Yes, sir; we have entered into agreements, and we are now getting ready to approve the project and construct it.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

29

Commissioner BURKE. All but 10 per cent, I understand, have entered into agreements already; and many of the 10 per cent are nonresidents, and it takes some time.

Senator CURTIS. Can you tell us, Mr. Commissioner, what efforts you are making to collect repayment from the people who are occupying the lands under these irrigation projects on the Indian reservations?

Commissioner BURKE. We are making every effort to do so.

Senator CURTIS. With what success?

Commissioner BURKE. In some places we are successful; in others not. There are conditions on some of the irrigation units in the Indian country where it is absolutely impossible to make collections. Wind River, in Wyoming, is one of them. Due to low prices and poor crops and no market, for instance, for alfalfa, it is practically impossible; and the conditions are so bad that in that reservation we have even suspended giving them the notice that if they do not pay their water will be cut off, because it would have a deterrent effect; it would discourage the Indians, and we are just nursing it along, but we are doing everything that we feel we ought to do.

Senator CURTIS. Are they paying in the State of Washington, where the crops are very large?

Commissioner BURKE. They are paying very well in the Yakima Valley, which I suppose is what you refer to?

Senator CURTIS. Yes. Now I have always found the Indian Office very fair about these appropriations. We get along very nicely when we handle the appropriations. I think the department ought to tell us frankly if there is any item here that was put in by the House that we can reduce.

Commissioner BURKE. I will state for the information of the committee that the Bureau of Indian Affairs in submitting its estimates both last year and this year did so with the intention of keeping entire faith with the Congress, and we have made our estimates on that basis. They were cut by the Bureau of the Budget more than we felt we could stand, and the fact that they were not cut in the House is a pretty good indication that the House thought that they were pared right down to the very limit that they ought to go. In my opinion we ought to have more money for education, but with the conditions of the country what they are I appreciate that we can not do what we would like to do until conditions improve; but there is not an item in this bill that I could conscientiously say ought to be reduced.

Senator SPENCER. I notice in the appropriation for the suppression of intoxicating liquors and deleterious drugs the House added the words "including peyote." Is that a wise addition or ought we to leave that out?

Commissioner BURKE. I think probably the committee knows as much about that as we do. It is a question that has been discussed and considered more or less for a number of years. Personally I doubt whether we can do much in suppressing peyote until we have legislation on the subject. We would like to have the item, of course.

Senator SPENCER. You mean you would like to have the authority?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes.

Senator CURTIS. It has been recommended by your office?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes; we have always recommended it.

30 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Senator CURTIS. Some of the Indian tribes are opposing the suppression of it, because they claim it is a religious rite?

Commissioner BURKE. I think that is a pretense. In our State a church known as the American Church recently asked to have their articles of incorporation amended, and the matter was taken up with our office, and we recommended against it, and the State department of that State declined to permit them to change it, because it was thought to be merely an attempt to get around the law by the using of peyote for sacramental purposes, when it was really intended to be used otherwise.

Senator CURTIS. I received a request on the telephone to have this matter go over until the Indians could be heard. As far as I am concerned my mind is made up and I think the department needs this legislation. Of course it is a question for the committee whether or not they will postpone the hearings to allow these Indians to be heard on the subject or not.

Commissioner BURKE. I think perhaps the committee knows that the attorney representing those rich Osages has been employed to oppose this legislation.

Senator SMOOR. He could not say any more to us than he has said in the past.

Senator CURTIS. It has all been covered time and again. We have had hearings on this subject four or five times.

Senator SPENCER. Would you not have authority to suppress this traffic under the deleterious drugs provision without specifically including peyote?

Commissioner BURKE. I doubt it.

Senator SPENCER. Do you not regard it as a deleterious drug?

Commissioner BURKE. Certainly, I do, but there seems to be a question about it. We think it ought to be mentioned specifically.

WAHPETON INDIAN SCHOOL.

Senator SMOOR. We have some proposed amendments, one by Senator McCumber, in the shape of a bill (S. 4055), and one in the shape of an amendment proposed by Senator Oddie of Nevada.

The McCumber bill reads as follows:

That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to purchase such additional land as he may deem necessary for the Wahpeton Indian School, Wahpeton, N. Dak., and there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$75,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purchase of such land.

What have you to say with regard to that?

Commissioner BURKE. I will simply say, Senator, in response to that inquiry, to let the committee understand my position, that when the estimate came to my notice there were estimated originally \$50,000 for a new school building at my own city of Pierre, which we need; but I said that until we could provide places for the children who are not now in school I would not favor any new construction or the acquiring of additional land at any school, and in order to be consistent I eliminated the recommendation from my home school. In opposing or not favoring the item for the purchase of additional land at Wahpeton I am simply being consistent with the position that I have taken.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 31

Senator SPENCER. How many children are there now out of school approximately?

Commissioner BURKE. In the neighborhood of 20,000.

Senator SPENCER. Eight thousand Navajos and 12,000 additional?

Commissioner BURKE. Yes.

PAIUTE DRAINAGE DISTRICT, NEVADA.

Senator SMOOT. The amendment proposed by Senator Oddie is as follows:

"That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized, by agreement or otherwise, to bring four thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven acres of Paiute Indian lands in the State of Nevada within the provisions and benefits of a drainage district, organized pursuant to the laws of said State, for the purpose of draining the lands within the Newlands irrigation project; and there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$2,500, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of paying the first installment assessable against said Indian lands: *Provided, however,* That the total amount of the charges assessed against said Indian lands shall not exceed \$49,603.05, and shall be payable in twenty annual installments: *Provided further,* That the Indian lands so drained by said district shall not be amenable to any lien which is subject to foreclosure created by the laws of said State for failure to pay charges when due: *And provided further,* That the money herein appropriated shall be reimbursed in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe."

Senator SPENCER. Is it desirable to include those Indian lands?

Commissioner BURKE. We are not asking for it.

Senator SPENCER. You do not think it is advisable?

Commissioner BURKE. I do not know anything about it. I know we are not asking for it.

Senator SPENCER. It was not estimated?

Commissioner BURKE. No.

Assistant Secretary FINNEY. Unless the committee has some questions to ask I am going to pass over the Pension Office, the Patent Office, and the Bureau of Education.

RECLAMATION SERVICE.

Assistant Secretary FINNEY. I am going to pass now to the Reclamation Service, on page 79. Are there any questions which you wish to ask? Director Davis is present.

STATEMENT OF MR. ARTHUR P. DAVIS, DIRECTOR RECLAMATION SERVICE.

Senator SMOOT. I want first to ask you is there any indication on the part of the Reclamation Service about any new reclamation projects in the near future?

Mr. DAVIS. So far as I can speak for them there is not. My view is that for several years to come the financial condition of the reclamation fund will not justify it. There are numerous projects that are requiring construction in excess of the available funds under the law, and while that condition will not be permanent, and will be gradually eliminated, it will continue for a few years.

Senator CURTIS. About how many?

Mr. DAVIS. That will depend very largely upon the rapidity with which the funds come in, but I should say at least four or five years.

It will take much longer than that to complete present projects, probably about 12 years; that is, to complete them as planned, but the incomplete portions are frequently units that are not urgent.

Senator CURTIS. How about your collections? In looking over your report I notice that the collections were in some cases what I considered very small. I think you had one case where there was nearly 100 per cent paid, but some of them dropped down to as low as 14 per cent of the amount due.

Mr. DAVIS. Some of them have paid up in full, practically, and there is quite a wide difference, it is very true, because the economic conditions are different on different projects.

Senator CURTIS. I notice that in the same report you stated that in many of these districts the crops produced would exceed the total cost of the projects, and yet only a small per cent had been paid in. What is the explanation of that? I know you were not in charge of it at that time, but what are you doing now to make them pay where their crops are large?

Mr. DAVIS. Of course, our ability to enforce payments is limited by the amount of the payment required by law.

Senator CURTIS. That is true, but many of them have paid only a small percentage of the amount required by law.

Mr. DAVIS. Where agricultural conditions have been prosperous this year and last year I think they have paid pretty well. In most cases where they have not paid up very well they have had adverse conditions.

Senator CURTIS. Bad crops?

Mr. DAVIS. Not bad crops, but bad prices. I think there have been no crop failures to amount to anything in the last few years, but during that time they have had very low prices and an increasing shortage of cars.

Senator CURTIS. Inability to reach the market?

Senator PHIPPS. Failure of transportation, and through that failure their crops have been lost.

Senator CURTIS. I hope in your reports in the future you will correct this if you can. You print in your report the statement that so many thousand dollars have been expended, and your report will show that the crops produced far exceed in value the cost of the project. Yet your collections are away down, 50 per cent, 40 per cent, or 20 per cent of what is really due. Now, if there is no market, your report should show that while these crops were produced there were no market for them, or that there was some reason why the amount of money had not been paid, in view of the large crops raised.

Mr. DAVIS. I suppose there should be included a statement as to whether the crops were profitable. A project might raise a million dollars worth of crops and yet the crops be raised at a loss. It is practically impossible to obtain accurate figures concerning the cost of production.

Senator CURTIS. I imagine that is so.

Mr. DAVIS. It is about all we can do to obtain the gross value of the crops. That is obtained at very slight expense. It is stated in the tables very plainly, but it does not state whether the crop was profitable. The fact that the value of a crop is large does not tend to show that it produced a profit. For instance, the Salt River project has been mentioned frequently in this connection. The

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

38

valuation of that crop will be considerable each year, but I think I can say that in 1920 there was no profit at all on the project as a whole. In fact there was said to have been a loss of over \$100 an acre on the part of all those who raised long-staple cotton in that year, and yet there was some value attached to that cotton.

Senator CURTIS. Another question, in order to get your view about it: What is the policy of the present administration of the bureau or of your department in reference to putting in projects without fully studying whether or not they will be successful?

Mr. DAVIS. The policy so far as I know it and so far as it is in my mind is to make that absolutely sure.

Senator CURTIS. I ask you the question for this reason: A number of years ago I asked the Indian Office people about one project. The responsible people who were there then have gone out now, but I think Senator Harris will remember this. I asked them about that project and they said they were using the money because the project had been authorized, although they were satisfied that the thing would be a failure and the Indian Office themselves admitted that the project ought not to have been put in. Now, of course, if Congress makes a mistake and you department really knows it, it seems to me you ought not to go on with that project without first informing Congress what the difficulty is. Then if Congress wants to take the responsibility, after it has been fully advised, it is up to Congress. That is why I asked you this question.

Mr. DAVIS. The Senator should remember that a bureau officer is limited in his ability to communicate with Congress.

Senator CURTIS. You can communicate to the Secretary?

Mr. DAVIS. I know it, but that does not necessarily communicate it to the Congress. I remember about two years ago you asked me about this same matter on which I had reported to the Secretary, but somehow the information did not get to the Indian Committee. A few years ago the Secretary of the Interior was very severely criticized on the floor of the Senate for having communicated with the Senate. The criticism stated that it was the constitutional prerogative of the President to communicate with the Congress, and that the Secretary of the Interior had no right to communicate with the Senate unless he was called upon. Now that applies a great deal more strongly to a bureau officer, a subordinate of the Interior Department.

Senator CURTIS. But this policy has always been followed by the committee—that the Secretary or any bureau head could talk freely with them with reference to matters in their department, and if the facts warranted, then the committee would send for the proper officials, to give the information, so that it could be printed and brought to the attention of the House or Senate through the official report. I am simply bringing this up because I have been put in the attitude of opposing these reclamation projects, when I am in favor of those that are really meritorious; but I do not believe in the Government spending money on a project unless it knows that it is going to be a success. I do not believe in the Government throwing money away.

Mr. DAVIS. I agree with that policy absolutely.

Senator SMOOT. I notice that in Idaho there is the King Hill project, the net construction cost of which is \$1,471,624, and not a cent paid upon it. In Montana there is the Milk River project, costing \$6,559,-

34 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

896, and not a cent paid upon that. Then I might go on with others, in New Mexico, in the same way.

Mr. DAVIS. What page of the hearings are you looking at?

Senator SMOOT. Pages 626 and 627 of the House hearings. What explanation have you to make of those projects?

Mr. DAVIS. Each one requires a separate explanation. The King Hill project in Idaho is not completed. We are under contract to do a certain amount of work there that is now under construction. I suppose the payments will begin shortly after that work is done. The contract so requires at least.

In regard to the Milk River project I should like to refer the committee to the hearings before the House. I made a statement about that project which is included there.

Senator SMOOT. You will not have to read that all through again. We can see that later. You can state it briefly again.

Mr. DAVIS. The statement about the Milk River project appears on page 637 of the House hearings.

The Milk River project was taken up by order of the President of the United States for the purpose of saving water from foreign appropriation. He ordered an allotment of \$1,000,000 for that work, and that was only partially expended when Congress took the matter out of the hands of the President and the department and referred the Milk River project to a board of Army Engineers. After investigation that board of Army Engineers recommended the adoption of the project, and the President ordered the recommendations of that board to be carried out. The Secretary of the Interior is the man to do that. That project has not yet been completed; but in that hearing at the bottom of page 638, for the reasons stated in that hearing, I recommended the inclusion of a certain item which in my opinion will put the Milk River project in a far better position to make collections than it is now, and without some such proviso as that I see no way of collecting the money that has been expended.

Senator SPENCER. Did the House put that provision in?

Mr. DAVIS. No, sir; it is not in the House bill. What other projects were there that you referred to?

Senator SMOOT. In New Mexico, the Rio Grande project, for instance, the net cost of construction is \$6,182,252, and not a cent has been paid on it.

Mr. DAVIS. The Rio Grande project is not completed. Most of it can be furnished with water and public notice has been issued on the Rio Grande project, and payments came due last month.

Senator SMOOT. How about the Hondo project?

Mr. DAVIS. The Hondo project is abandoned. That was a project where the reservoir did not hold water. That has been abandoned for many years.

Senator SMOOT. The Government loses that money?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator HARRIS. How much was spent on that?

Senator SMOOT. They spent \$371,867. It seems to me there is not a fair distribution of the reclamation fund to the different States.

Mr. FINNEY. The reclamation funds have been spent in places where it is absolutely necessary to have irrigation.

Senator SMOOT. That is what I have thought many times in regard to my own State, that the irrigation was absolutely required.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

35

Mr. FINNEY. One difficulty is that some of the projects were started in the twilight zone where there is sufficient rain at times to insure crops or partial crops, and in that situation people are reluctant to pay. They have not the interest in it, and the incentive that they have in the more arid regions, where they know what irrigation means, and know that it means life to them. However, as Mr. Davis has stated, I think more care is now being exercised in the selection of projects than was the case some years ago.

Senator SMOOT. There is no need of selecting any if, as the Secretary says, we are not going to have any more for five years. Mr. Davis does not think he can get the payment for those that are already constructed so that there will be any more money within five years, and from that statement it would not surprise me at all to see an extension of time, so that it will be 10 or 15 years.

Mr. DAVIS. I should say, Mr. Chairman, that I preferred my statement concerning the future with a very wide latitude as to what funds will be available. This matter of re-collection from the other projects is one of the most doubtful features.

Senator SPENCER. Do you mean by your statement that you will never get anything out of the Milk River project without that proviso which you recommend?

Mr. DAVIS. I would not go that far, because some other proviso might be made, or some other device invented.

Senator PHIPPS. But the amount you have asked for has been inserted by the House.

Senator SPENCER. It is not the amount. It is the provision in small type at the bottom of page 36 of the House hearings. That is about a \$6,500,000 project?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator SPENCER. How much has been spent?

Mr. DAVIS. I think that amount has been spent.

Senator SPENCER. The proviso on page 638 you think to be necessary?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator SPENCER. You think it necessary to divide the cost into a primary construction charge and a supplemental construction charge in order to get anything from the settlers?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; something of that kind, something similar to that.

Senator PHIPPS. That provision is legislation.

Senator SPENCER. We could offer it from the floor if necessary. If it is necessary in order to get the money back, why is there any valid objection to it?

Mr. DAVIS. I should like to make one further statement, Mr. Chairman. I have received recent information from the field that it is desirable to have continued into the next year's appropriation the items that were appropriated for this year on three of the projects where delays have occurred so that the work that is under way could not be carried out. It can not be carried out as intended during this fiscal year.

Senator SPENCER. What are those three?

Mr. DAVIS. Those three are the Sun River project in Montana, the Newlands project in Nevada, and the Umatilla project in Oregon. We wish the unexpended balance of the current appropriation made available for the following years. In other words the expenditure of

36

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

money appropriated has been found impracticable during this year in those three cases.

Senator PHIPPS. And you want a reappropriation in each case?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator SPENCER. Has none of it been expended?

Mr. DAVIS. Some of it has been expended, but the unappropriated balance should be made available until expended.

Senator SPENCER. You want that in addition to the \$145,000 for the Sun River project?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator SPENCER. And in addition to the \$735,000 for the Newlands project?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator SPENCER. And in addition to the \$900,000 for the Umatilla project?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Senator SMOOT. What is the unexpended balance?

Mr. DAVIS. The unexpended balance in each case is very uncertain, because only half of this fiscal year has expired.

Senator SPENCER. What is the full appropriation in each case for the present year in which the unexpended balance occurs?

Mr. DAVIS. I have not got it here.

Senator HARRIS. Can you tell us how much it will be?

Mr. DAVIS. It is in the hearings.

Senator SPENCER. For the Sun River last year it was \$345,000, for the Nowlands project \$915,000, and for the Umatilla project \$500,000.

Mr. DAVIS. I will ask permission to insert in the record, if you do not object, a statement of facts concerning the Uncompahgre project in Colorado, which was a matter of debate on the floor of the House, and concerning which there was some controversy. I have here before me the report that I made to Secretary Fall upon the conditions on that project very recently, and some other statements concerning its past history.

Senator PHIPPS. I am very familiar with the director's report on the Uncompahgre project, and I think there should be no objection to placing it in the record.

Mr. DAVIS. This also contains some other facts which I would like to have you look over.

Senator PHIPPS. I will be glad to do so.

UNCOMPAHGRE PROJECT.

Mr. DAVIS. The Representative from Colorado prints in the Congressional Record of December 29 a violent attack on the Reclamation Service, which is a mixture of truth and error, resulting in conclusions which are incorrect and unjust. The erroneous statements are mainly a repetition of arguments invented by the leader of the most deep-laid attempt at repudiation that has occurred in the history of the Reclamation Service, and which have been disproved so often and completely that no one in the valley credits them now.

When the adoption of the Uncompahgre project was under consideration, the owners of the land to be benefited were required to

pledge those lands as security for the return of the construction cost of the proposed works, and this some of them were reluctant to do. A few of the people of the valley, led by a wealthy attorney and money-lender, took the position that the owners of the land might sign the necessary papers to fulfill the requirements of the Government, and that after its investments had been made they could withdraw from the project and have their liens canceled. Officers of the Reclamation Service were falsely quoted as authority for this vicious report. The attorney mentioned assured his clients and others that if they would "sign up" their lands and get the Government started he would personally assure them that they would never have to pay the charges for constructing the project, and his official connection with the negotiations with the Reclamation Service gave such weight to his assurances that they were widely believed.

Learning that such suggestions were current, the director of the Reclamation Service wrote a letter to the Water Users' Association correcting this, and assuring them that the liens would be held to enforce the collections according to law. This, however, did not stop the false representations, and evidence thereof frequently appeared. Long after the Gunnison Tunnel was completed I referred to this unfair propaganda in the presence of the lawyer mentioned, and he confirmed its existence and boasted that no payments had been made on construction and that none ever would be made.

The charge that the landowners were "promised" that the "project" as now defined would not cost more than \$25 per acre is utterly untrue. On the contrary, the contract required that when the actual cost was ascertained the association was required to increase its stock to an amount sufficient to cover its actual cost.

All talk of \$25 per acre was made with reference to the Gunnison Tunnel and its outlet and did not contemplate the equally necessary enlargement and extension of existing canals or the construction of new ones. These other features, which represent about half the investment of the Government, were supposed to be carried through by the water users themselves during the construction of the big tunnel, but were not, largely owing to the opposition of the lawyer mentioned and his followers.

The Water Users' Association approved these works and purchases, including the prices paid for the existing canals. These additional features were not contemplated in the beginning and not included in any of the early estimates. The statement that the "project" as thus defined to include these features has cost three times the "promised" cost is without foundation in fact.

Equally untrue is the statement that the capacity of the tunnel was "promised" to be 1,200 second-feet and that it is insufficient. The contract with the association is silent on this point, but it was signed after the policy had been publicly announced to a crowded meeting of water users that the tunnel be built of a capacity sufficient for the needs of the lands actually pledged to repay its cost, and the irrigable public lands, and no more. This announcement was made by the board of engineers on whose recommendation the project was taken up, and this policy was adopted and carried out. The capacity of the tunnel is ample for all requirements, but can be increased by lining its unlined portions. Its full capacity has never yet been required.

The limit on the water supply is not the capacity of the tunnel, but the flow of the Gunnison River, which feeds it. This river this year reached the lowest minimum in its history, less than half the capacity of the tunnel, and caused no shortage of water.

This valley applies far more water to the land than the average use on our projects, and generally in Colorado. This is injuring the land, and incurring excessive cost for drainage. The argument is one invented by the leader of the repudiation forces years ago for his vicious purposes and is so thoroughly discredited by the experience of the valley that it has no material backing among the water users. Its resurrection at this time can do nothing but harm by propagating the false report that the project has insufficient water supply, thus injuring the credit of the valley and the value of the land. The whole idea is the reverse of the fact.

Equally untrue is the charge of reckless extravagance. This is another of the loose and discredited charges originating with the leader of the repudiation forces. It is a deep injustice to Messrs. Quinton, McConnell, Pease, Pyle, and Foster, who successively had charge of the construction and operation of the project. No just criticism of consequence can be lodged against their economy or efficiency.

In a recent investigation of this project, in which numerous public hearings were held, strong representations were made that the water-users are this year unable to pay construction charges; these were based entirely on the lack of transportation and reasonable markets. No reference was made to old promises or to extravagance. The evidence on the subject of water supply was unanimous to the effect that it was ample.

The water users of the Uncompahgre project are not repudiators. If any such spirit remains it is confined mainly to lawyers, politicians, and money lenders. Such speeches as that referred to above are apt to place the valley in a false light and injure its credit and standing among honorable men.

The Representative from Colorado charges that the operation cost of this project is excessive, because it is operated by the Government. In his offer of extension made by Secretary Lano in 1917 he imposed a condition that the association assume the management and operation of all the works of the project. This would throw their interests into the hands of the repudiation leader to such an extent that it aroused violent and widespread opposition, and in response to unanimous request this condition was eliminated and the Government continued the management. The contract still contains an option for the water users to take over the operation of the system, which they will doubtless do whenever they believe they can do it better or cheaper than the Reclamation Service.

The statement that inferior cement was used is without foundation and is unjust to these engineers and to the Colorado company which furnished the cement. Some alkali action has required repair, but this constitutes less than 1 per cent of the cost of construction and is offset many times by one year's extension.

After the recent investigation made of the project, the following report was made to Secretary Fall:

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

39

BISHOP'S LODGE,
Santa Fe, N. Mex., November 22, 1924.

Hon. A. B. FALL, *Secretary of the Interior.*

Sir: Complying with your suggestion, I visited the Uncompahgre Valley in company with the chief engineer of the Reclamation Service, and spent a day in conference with the officers of the Water Users' Association and other leading citizens of the valley.

The Gunnison River, from which the water supply is mainly drawn, has been lower this fall than at any other corresponding season in the record, but no serious shortage of water was felt. The irrigation works functioned efficiently, and the agricultural production of the valley has been satisfactory.

The financial condition of the valley, however, is very bad. Two of the staple crops, apples and potatoes, are so low in price as to afford little return above the cost of harvesting, and can not be marketed without shipment from the valley, and it is impossible to obtain suitable cars in sufficient quantity. As a consequence, much of the potato crop will remain in the ground and much of the apple crop will remain on the trees.

The prices of oats and of sugar beets are profitable, but the acreage of these crops raised is small. All those engaged in the dairy industry appear to be doing well, but they are few.

The people interviewed nearly all testified that the valley is in the worst condition of its history, but laid the major portion of the blame upon the high freight rates, and especially the impossibility of obtaining freight service at all. It was said that 900 carloads of apples awaited shipment at Delta, and only 75 cars had been received during the past week.

Everything considered, the valley is in a deplorable condition financially.

Very respectfully,

A. P. DAVIS, *Director.*

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

STATEMENT OF MR. PHILIP S. SMITH, ACTING DIRECTOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Mr. FINNEY. Mr. Smith, Director of the Geological Survey, would like to make a statement about that.

Mr. SMITH. I thought you would like a word on the topography program. You are probably familiar with the fact that on the floor of the House they raised the amount from \$325,000 to \$500,000. There was some discussion as to whether that was a necessary expenditure, and you may be interested to know that for the past two years—that is, for 1923 and 1924—the bureau thought we needed \$750,000 for that project. After discussion with the Secretary, and with the most conservative desire to keep the amount to the smallest limit possible the Secretary of the Interior recommended \$500,000 to the Budget as the estimate. The Budget allowed us \$325,000, which was raised by the House to \$500,000. We really feel that this is an essential project that should be pushed to even a greater scale than recommended by the House when it raised it to \$500,000. That is not as full a measure as we should like, but that \$500,000 will put the work under way, and we earnestly desire that it shall be carried on on that scale.

In my statement before the House subcommittee I stated that I considered as certain State cooperative funds to the extent of \$280,000. I estimate as probable something like \$440,000 of State cooperative funds, and I estimate as possible some \$650,000 of State cooperative funds.

Senator SMOOR. Why not make the amount \$140,000, so you will be perfectly safe, instead of \$500,000?

Mr. SMITH. Because, as I have shown in my previous hearings, besides the cooperative money that we can get from the State funds there are Geological Survey needs for part of that fund, so that the whole amount appropriated in the bill is not available for meeting State cooperations. As you probably know, we have an overhead, part of the general administration of the survey, etc., and accounts and things of that sort that have to be paid out of whatever fund is set out for these various scientific appropriations, so that if \$500,000 is appropriated there probably will not be more than \$400,000 and odd for meeting State cooperation. Perhaps I should say in connection with that estimate that some of this undoubtedly will not be offered on the dollar-for-dollar basis. We are under no compulsion to meet on the dollar-for-dollar basis. The experience of the past has been that when we have made more detailed maps than what you might call normal reasonable mappings, we have made an additional charge. For instance, we did some work in Texas for which the State paid four or five times to our one. Of course, we feel that we should scrutinize every project and not accept cooperation unless it is on a fair Federal basis, and that has always been our practice and will be continued in the future.

Senator SMOOT. What next?

Mr. SMITH. The next item I should like to talk about is the item for geological surveys, for which ever since 1915, with the exception of this current year, 1923, we have had an appropriation of approximately \$350,000. The Budget recommended an item of approximately \$350,000, and that was cut as it passed the Committee of the Whole of the House to \$300,000. We do not feel that that is adequate for doing geological survey work, which is important and which inter-leave with many of the other activities, such as land classifications, and many of these activities.

Senator SPENCER. What did the House give you?

Mr. SMITH. \$300,000.

Senator SMOOT. What is the next item?

Mr. SMITH. In passing, I suppose I should mention a small cut for gaging streams and determining the water supply of the United States, for which we have had for a number of years \$180,000. In the estimates of the Secretary, which were approved by him, this item was increased to \$200,000.

Senator SMOOT. The amount allowed was \$170,000?

Mr. SMITH. The estimate was \$225,000, which the Secretary curtailed to the limit of \$200,000, and the Budget committee approved it for \$170,500. As you know that is our stream-gauging investigation and water supply work. I rather hesitate to spend time in talking about that \$10,000 cut, because really in my opinion we need \$225,000. It is up to you gentlemen whether it is worth while to take the time on that \$10,000 item. I really feel that there should be a \$50,000 addition, rather than this small \$10,000 item that makes up the Budget estimate.

Senator PINNIP. If we should give you the \$170,500, how much if anything could you do in the way of mapping, say, in dry-farming sections the available supply of underground water? Settlers go on land, and where there is quite a large desirable area, if it has not been tested out the settlers have no means of knowing how deep they will have to sink in order to get water for domestic purposes even for

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

41

their household use, to say nothing of the animals that they need in their farming operations. Now I have understood from certain information coming to me that even with the amount of \$200,000 you would be able to devote but very little to the work of mapping the dry-farming sections?

Mr. SMITH. It is rather difficult to answer that specifically except to say that at the present time we are running on \$180,000. I do not see any curtailment that can be made effective, therefore I should say that I can not do any more or as much as we are doing at the present time with an appropriation under \$180,000. With any excess above \$180,000 I should expect we would undertake certain of those investigations, whose importance I fully appreciate, and which we have had in contemplation, and which were in our minds in suggesting to the Secretary of the Interior the sum of \$225,000 as a proper figure for this appropriation at this time.

Senator PIERCE. Assuming that the committee were willing to put this back to \$180,000, that is giving you the \$10,000 additional, would you favor allocating that \$10,000 to the testing of artesian or other underground water supplies, and make that item \$35,000?

Mr. SMITH. I should prefer not to, for the simple reason that as I say at the present time it is costing us \$180,000. I do not see where it could be done. If we are allowed only \$170,000 I shall have to get rid of some of the engineers on our present force who are engaged in that work. I should hesitate very decidedly to make any promises on that basis.

Senator SMOOT. Is there any other item?

Mr. SMITH. I should like to speak of the land classification item on page 88, for the examination and classification of lands requisite for the determination of their suitability for enlarged homesteads, stock-raising homesteads, public watering places, and stock driveways, or other uses, as required by the public land laws. Prior to this current year 1922 we had \$300,000 for this item. It was cut to \$225,000. We feel that we are slipping behind by not doing as adequate work as should be done and slighting quite a number of the more difficult questions for future consideration. I speak of that because if you will look at our record in the hearings you will find that we have caught up, that we have made a decided showing of removal of arrearage in the number of actions that have been taken by us during the past year, but I think that has left us a residue of knottier questions which are going to take more time and will cost more to solve, and I personally feel that we have slid over certain of the basic considerations that should have been decided before action was taken, that we have felt compelled to get through with the cases so that the land could be acquired, and that consequently we have not given as thorough consideration as the problems demanded. I earnestly suggest that the minimum for carrying on the work on the scale on which it has been carried on prior to this year, of \$300,000, is very desirable for the best interests of the country.

Senator SMOOT. The Budget estimated \$225,000?

Mr. FINNEY. The Budget allowed us the \$300,000, allowed an increase of \$75,000.

Mr. SMITH. The Budget put it back to what it was a year ago, so we are simply asking you to come back to the Budget figures.

Mr. FINNEY. The land classification item included not only farming land, but coal and all that sort of thing.

42 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Senator SMOOT. This year you had \$225,000, and the House gave you the same as you had?

Mr. SMITH. Yes.

Mr. FINNEY. The Secretary of the Interior strongly urged \$300,000, and General Lord allowed it.

BUREAU OF MINES.

STATEMENT OF H. FOSTER BAIN, DIRECTOR BUREAU OF MINES.

Mr. BAIN. The first item to which I wish to call the attention of the committee is on page 94 of the bill, in regard to the amendment adopted on the floor of the House, of the act regarding the fuel yard. This is a matter which has been somewhat in controversy. I think it may come up, and with that end in view, I just want to give you a word or two with regard to it. Secretary Fall has sent to the chairman of the committee a letter approving this. While the language is rather complicated it really provides for the purchase of land, as was contemplated in the original act, and the building of a garage, and certain simplifications in the method of work. It results in the recovery of land belonging to the Government, and in a reduction of operating expenses which will be reflected in the fuel bills of the Government departments here at Washington, simplifying the methods of payment, and will result also in turning into the United States Treasury \$257,000. So that we feel that this is a proper thing which should be carried out. It has received the approval of the Secretary, and of the Director of the Budget, after having had a formal investigation of the matter by the Committee on Mines and Mining, after a long series of hearings, with arguments presented very pugnaciously by the opponents of the proposition, and it has been accepted by the Appropriations Committee of the House and by the House itself. So I should like to have you give it very careful consideration. You will find in the hearings of the House Committee on Mines and Mining and of the House Committee on Appropriations a large amount of material in favor of the matter.

Senator SMOOT. What you are speaking of is the insertion of that amendment in the House?

Mr. BAIN. Yes.

Senator SMOOT. Not under the heading of Government fuel yards, but that amendment adopted by the House?

Mr. BAIN. The amendment adopted by the House.

The second item is in regard to the purchase of land. That is also on page 94, line 8, the item there for the purchase of land at Bruce-ton, Pa.

At the time these estimates were made we were unable to get a satisfactory price for the unmined coal on the land, and with that in view we presented to the Director of the Budget a project for the purchase only at this time of the surface and the actual coal which was under the buildings, and intended to present following that the purchase of additional land.

In taking that up with the House committee the House committee felt very strongly that if possible we should clear that up this year, so we have since been able to get an option running to the 15th of

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 43

next July at \$1,500 an acre, as against \$2,300 an acre, which had been asked, and, accordingly, if you can increase that \$33,000 to \$75,000 and change the wording by adding the words "surrounding the mine" following the word "building," that will enable you to clear it up this year and should make a saving of approximately \$39,000. This has received the approval of the Secretary, has been approved by the Director of the Budget, and the Director of the Budget gives us a letter, of which I will leave a copy with you.

Senator SMOOT. What words do you want stricken out?

Mr. BAIN. Following the word "building," on page 94, line 8, we wish to add the words "surrounding the mines," and then change the amount \$33,000 to \$75,000.

I will leave with you a letter from the Director of the Budget relating to this subject.

When we presented to the Budget Director our estimates we were able to show him where he could get everything which was given, and also an item of \$125,000 for oil shale—which he felt obliged to postpone until next year—and still come within the amount of money appropriated last year. If you will give this \$42,000 which we are asking, increasing the amount from \$33,000 to \$75,000, you will still be within the amount which the Budget Director approved for the Bureau of Mines for next year.

Unless you have some further questions, that is all I have in mind.

NATIONAL PARKS.

**STATEMENT OF MR. ARNO B. CAMMERER, ACTING DIRECTOR
OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.**

Mr. CAMMERER. I am sorry that the Director of the National Park Service can not be here himself, but he has been sick.

Senator SMOOT. All right, proceed.

Mr. CAMMERER. During the past five years the number of people visiting the national parks has increased from 450,000 to 1,150,000. This throws on the park service an additional charge for administration and maintenance. If I may refer to the wording of the appropriation, you will see that it has been divided into two parts, one item covering administration, protection, and maintenance as such, and the other for construction. When we appeared before the Director of the Budget we had an item for \$7,500,000 for road work in the parks, for a three year program, which was cut out. However, the Director of the Budget also cut out \$189,000 of the minimum estimate that we had submitted from the department for the parks. Our duty therefore was to distribute that \$189,000 over the various parks, and we distributed it among construction, because we felt that as it was a duty placed upon us to take care of the people who ride over the park roads we had to keep our maintenance up to what we considered necessary. The House has been very generous in their treatment of the parks, but there are four items that I will have to refer to, because we feel that they do not enable us to meet the demands put upon us for the next season.

On page 97 of the bill, Glacier National Park, the amendment we propose is to strike out in line 8 the figures "\$100,000" and insert "\$127,205."

44 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

Senator SPENCER. What is the estimate?

Mr. CAMMERER. This is all within the Budget. Nothing that I am asking for is beyond the Budget. Then in line 9 we want to strike out "\$115,000" and insert "\$127,505."

Senator SPENCER. What is meant by "construction of physical improvements," in line 8, on page 97?

Mr. CAMMERER. That means in the construction of roads, buildings, etc.

Senator SMOOT. What is the amendment?

Mr. CAMMERER. In line 8 to strike out "\$100,000" and insert "\$127,295," and in line 9 strike out "\$115,000" and insert "\$127,505." Then in line 13 to change the total to correspond with these previous changes, striking out "\$215,000" and inserting "\$254,800."

Senator SPENCER. The change in line 13 is a mere correction of the total?

Mr. CAMMERER. Yes; that is the aggregate of the other items, and is exactly within the Budget.

Now going to several of the other parks I would be glad to answer any questions.

In the Mesa Verde National Park, page 99, line 1, we ask to strike out the figures "\$21,000" and insert the figures "\$28,850." That is for the administration, protection, and maintenance item in the Budget. In line 2, strike out "\$10,000" and insert "\$14,150."

In line 4, page 99, strike out "\$31,000" and insert "\$43,000," which is the Budget estimate. Those two items are together.

In line 6, page 99, strike out "\$8,000" and insert "\$10,000" for Mount McKinley, which is within the Budget. That is an Alaskan park, and you know that prices are twice as much there as they are in this country. We can not get help for the figures that we have allotted within the present Budget, and also we are running short even now on necessary dog food up there.

Senator SMOOT. You do not have many people visiting that?

Mr. CAMMERER. There were only seven, but there are perhaps 500 who will go if we can let them this year, but there is no place to put them. That park was established primarily to protect the wonderful woodland caribou, and we need a protecting force.

For Mount Rainier National Park, page 99, line 10, we ask to strike out "\$60,000" and insert "\$76,800," which is within the Budget, for administration, protection, and maintenance.

Senator SPENCER. Why so much more than last year—\$46,000?

Mr. CAMMERER. The difference is primarily in the increase in road maintenance. First of all I should say those park roads were built for horse-drawn vehicular traffic. During the last few years automobiles have come in, and with no new road construction they literally knock some of our roads to pieces, and that means a larger maintenance expense. I have a very illuminating statement with reference to Sequoia National Park in that connection. Also we borrowed in Mount Ranier National Park a rock crusher and a road roller, costing \$6,000 apiece, which we absolutely had to have for those roads, for their maintenance. We borrowed these machines from the county, and this loan is subject to call at any time, like money borrowed on call, and we may have to return them any day, which would hold us back tremendously.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

45

In line 13, page 99, we ask to have stricken out the figures "\$35,000" and insert "\$81,200," which is within the Budget, for construction.

Senator SPENCER. For the same reason?

Mr. CAMMERER. That is construction work.

Senator SPENCER. For physical improvements?

Mr. CAMMERER. Yes.

Senator PHIPPS. Under Mount Rainier National Park you have in your estimate an item of \$38,000 for continuing the widening of the Nisqually entrance to Paradise Valley road, 8½ miles. I had this item in mind and had prepared an amendment to cover it, but the amount you are now giving does not quite agree with what I had. I had \$73,000 in lieu of the \$35,000 in line 13 on page 99, and now you are asking for \$81,200.

Mr. CAMMERER. The correct figures are \$81,200.

Senator PHIPPS. I had not covered the additional \$4,000 for a residence for the chief clerk and for the employces' cottage.

Mr. CAMMERER. The next amendment I propose is within the Budget, and it is in line 13, after the word "including," to insert the following: "\$38,000 for completing the widening of the Nisqually entrance to Paradise Valley Road."

The Budget this year considered an item which the former Budget Director has approved, namely, for an entire reconstruction of roads program in the parks amounting to \$7,500,000. General Dawes last year approved that. The parks need this new road program, but on account of the condition of the public Treasury this was cut out this year. However, the Budget agreed to continuing road projects amounting to \$232,000, which were inserted. The House granted every one of the continuing road projects except this one from Mount Rainier. This is within the Budget estimate, and therefore is not subject to a point of order. This is the last link in road work that has been going on for several years in the park, and is urgently needed.

In line 17, page 99, we ask to strike out the figures \$95,000 and insert \$158,000. That is merely a correction of the total.

On page 100, line 14, under the Sequoia National Park, we ask you to strike out \$35,000 and insert \$41,950. That is for administration, protection and maintenance, and is within the Budget.

In line 15, for construction of physical improvements, strike out \$80,000 and insert \$90,050.

In line 19, strike out \$115,000 and insert \$132,000. That is merely a correction of the total.

Then on page 101, between lines 11 and 12, we ask to have inserted the following:

Hereafter the Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in his discretion and under regulations to be prescribed by him, to give surplus elk, buffalo, bear, beaver, and predatory animals inhabiting the Yellowstone National Park to Federal, State, county, and municipal authorities for preserves, zoos, zoological gardens, and parks: *Provided*, That the said Secretary may sell or otherwise dispose of the surplus buffalo of the Yellowstone National Park herd, and all monies received from the sale of any such surplus buffalo shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

The above provision authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to give surplus elk, bear, beaver, and predatory animals to public

46 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

institutions. It also authorizes the donation of buffalo in the same manner, but in addition gives the Secretary permission to sell or otherwise dispose of the buffalo as may in his judgment seem advisable. In this latter instance he is not bound to confine the disposition to public institutions.

For some years past the department has been donating surplus elk, buffalo and other animals to public preserves, municipal parks, etc., and this practice has enabled many States to stock their lands with animals, particularly elk, besides reducing to a degree the problem in Yellowstone—which, by the way, exists in no other national park—of caring for more animals than is economically possible. An investigation made a year or two ago by the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture produced evidence that the whole experiment of transplanting elk was very successful. These animals are shipped in larger numbers than any of the others because their population is larger and they multiply comparatively fast.

The authority sought above, therefore, as far as the animals generally are concerned, is only to give sanction to what has heretofore been considered proper within the administrative discretion of the Secretary. It will, however, prevent any question arising in the future in connection with this feature of park work.

Notwithstanding the fact that practically every request for buffalo coming from a public institution has been granted, the demand from this source is too limited to have any appreciable effect in keeping the herd to such a size that it can be accommodated on the range that is available. Therefore, in the interests of better administration it is desirable that some other means should be available for disposing of the surplus, either by sale or otherwise in the discretion of the Secretary. For instance, there are in this country a number of private owners of buffalo herds who are making a bona fide effort to reestablish this magnificent animal, and to encourage them in the undertaking the department should be in a position to allow them from time to time to have some of the surplus Yellowstone buffalo for the infusion of new blood.

An expression of opinion of the proposed plan for the distribution of surplus buffalo was recently sought from some of the foremost game conservation organizations in this country, and favorable replies were received from the American Humane Association, the National Association of Audubon Societies, the American Game Protective and Propagation Association, and the New York Zoological Society.

The "tame" herd of buffalo in Yellowstone Park was established under authority contained in the act of July 1, 1902 (32 Stat. 574), with an appropriation of \$15,000 for the purpose. Twenty-one animals were purchased in the fall of that year, and these have multiplied until now the herd contains 578. It is estimated that the "wild" herd, a remnant of the vast hordes that once roamed this region, numbers from 125 to 150, but it has no place in the present discussion.

In the distribution of buffalo or other animals no expense is incurred by the Government as the invariable rule has been made that the recipient must defray all expenses incident to capturing, crating, and transporting the animals.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 47

Then on page 102, in line 16, we ask to strike out the words "without contract or bond" and insert the words "without compliance with sections 3709 and 3744, Revised Statutes."

The reason for that is this: Under sections 3709 and 3744 of the Revised Statutes we have to advertise for every purchase in the parks unless it is an emergency, and we also have to get a contract and bond. The result is that on a \$3 a month telephone bill in the Mesa Verde, where there is only one telephone company, we have to go to the trouble of getting a bond and all that sort of thing, which puts us into bad order with the surrounding country. We hope by the insertion of this amendment to be able to make purchases up to \$50 without competition, in the manner common among business men, and without a bond. Since I appeared before the House committee the accounting office tells me that the comptroller's office tell them that the words "without contract or bond" as they appear in the bill would not obviate the necessity of getting the bond, because those words have no specific reference to the statute. So we propose to make the change a little more specific, by striking out the words "without contract or bond" in lines 16 and 17 of page 102 and inserting instead "without compliance with sections 3709 and 3744, Revised Statutes," which is printed on the back of every voucher we have, and has to be filled in. That would facilitate our park business tremendously.

Senator SMOOR. They telephoned me the other day at the office about Zion National Park, Utah, that you had communicated with the Budget about that.

Mr. CAMMERER. General Lord told us to put in a supplemental estimate under a deficiency, and we are working on that now.

Senator PHIPPS. I should like to call your attention to Rocky Mountain National Park, on page 99. You have some changes to propose there, have you not, to provide for roads?

Mr. CAMMERER. No; that is one where the Budget has not approved it.

Senator PHIPPS. It was included, however, within the continuing three-year program?

Mr. CAMMERER. Yes.

Senator PHIPPS. For \$7,500,000?

Mr. CAMMERER. The Director of the Budget told us the other day that we should present this in a supplemental estimate.

Senator PHIPPS. I have here a copy of an amendment I have prepared. I should like to have you explain what you think should be done with this.

Mr. CAMMERER. Yes, Senator; the amendment proposes striking out \$11,000 in line 6 of page 100 and making that \$61,000 and adding \$80,000 thereto for construction and improvement of roads—in all, \$124,280; but that is not within the Budget, and we would be without power to defend it before the committee.

Senator PHIPPS. I am perfectly aware of that, but I should like to have you give your reasons for desiring to secure if possible a supplemental estimate for that. Is it on account of the number of people going into the parks and the fact that these roads built by the State or by the counties are not in the ownership of the Government, and you have not even the money to surface them or to keep them in repair?

Mr. CAMMERER. That brings up one of the most important problems with regard to the National Park Service with which we are confronted. I think we consider it the most important problem.

Senator SMOOR. It applies to all of them.

Mr. CAMMERER. It applies to all of the national parks. Our figures show that for the past five or six years the United States Government, through the Bureau of Public Roads, has wisely and well expended \$540,000,000 in cooperation with the States which have contributed an equal amount toward building roads through the Nation. The Forest Service has spent \$145,000,000 in that time, and also uses 10 per cent of its revenue for that purpose, for building roads within the forests. This is all very fine. It works for the development of the West, and, of course, helps the parks as well, because it leads people to the park borders. However, our figures show that for the national parks since 1872 we have had slightly over \$3,000,000, of which about \$1,500,000 was expended prior to 1916, when the park service was organized and Stephen T. Mather took charge.

Of that one million and a half, perhaps \$1,100,000 was used in the Yellowstone, and that park now has the best unsurfaced roads in the park system. There are, however, only about 8 miles of surfaced roads in the entire national park system. When Mr. Mather took charge in 1916, the old bus system was still in operation in the parks, and only a hundred or two automobiles had been permitted to enter them before that time--1913. The park roads are still the old roads built for horse-drawn vehicular traffic. Now, five years ago we had 450,000 visitors to the national parks, and this year we had 1,500,000; and, gentlemen, this is only the beginning. When you get to the parks, you have roads which, compared with the county and State roads outside, are positively ridiculous. We are getting more well-merited complaints on that score than even last year, and they are coming in faster all the time. Mount Rainier has received more complaints regarding the condition of its roads than perhaps any of the other parks. Last year we presented the matter of the recognition of the necessity for new roads in the parks to the Director of the Budget, and Director Dawes, before we were half through, said: "You have convinced me; there is nothing more to be said, and if you will work out this budget we will approve it."

This year we presented the same thing to General Lord, and he, with the very difficult problems before him, told the Secretary of the Interior that he could not press that item of \$7,500,000 for a three-year road program. However, we are up against this proposition where it is becoming a large public problem. It is not only the road situation that is involved but even the development of the parks. In Mount Ranier the operating company has put in some \$400,000 or \$500,000 in improvements. In the Yosemite National Park the roads are so bad that we do not even dare to maintain them. It would be throwing away Government money. In the Yosemite we have 128 miles of Government roads, only 8 miles of which we built ourselves. The rest of them were built by the State and by the counties. We assumed control of them with the assumption of the park administration, and we are charging \$5 a car entrance fee over those roads.

Senator PHIPPS. How much are the receipts from automobiles?

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924. 49

Mr. CAMMERER. The entire revenue from automobiles and motor cycles and so on from 1913 amounts to \$1,138,198.27, and most of that has been received in the past three years, when motors began to come in.

Now, on the question of revenue, I might say that the past year we took in \$432,000 from the parks, and this year as nearly as we can figure it our receipts will be \$511,000 from concessions, motor licenses, etc. People are not kicking about the \$5 or \$7.50 entrance fee. They say if Congress sees fit to authorize that provision it is all right, but they say they do not get anything for their money. Recently the California Automobile Association spread itself all over the papers of that State, saying that they were not complaining about the \$5 entrance fee to Yosemite, but that they would like to have good roads in there. Here is just one item to show you how the States are taking care of even their road maintenance of the parks. We have asked for an increase to the Budget allowance on the maintenance item for Sequoia. The estimate of \$9,100 to maintain and repair 52 miles of dirt mountain road, at \$175 a mile, is conservative, and any highway engineer would agree that it is little enough to maintain roads properly constructed and culverted in the first instance, whereas, our roads have never been so constructed and provided. We are asking \$175 a mile, against \$86 a mile for last year.

It is only by careful use of park material and ranger labor during winter and spring months that the estimated sum will suffice, and this sum is less than one-third of the amount spent by Tulare County in maintaining and improving the 9 miles of Giant Forest county road which joins the park road. In other words, we are asking but \$9,100 to maintain 52 miles of mountain road at \$175 a mile, while Tulare County has spent over \$30,000 in maintaining 9 miles at lower levels, and consequently less exposed to damage from winter storms. The fact that during past years we have been obliged to divert road maintenance funds for sanitation and camp sites and the extraordinary damage done during the winter of 1921-22 must also be considered.

Senator PHIPPS. How does the number of visitors to Yosemite and Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain parks compare? What were the figures for last year?

Mr. CAMMERER. Rocky Mountain Park last year had 219,104 visitors, the Yellowstone had 98,223, and Yosemite had 100,506. Beyond all doubt the Rocky Mountain Park is the most traveled park in the system.

Senator PHIPPS. If it were possible to secure the adoption of this amendment proposed by me which would provide \$50,000 additional, for the Rocky Mountain National Park, and \$50,000 for the Yosemite National Park, what could you do with that money? Of course it is stated to be for the construction and improvement of roads, but what would it mean in the way of making these main roads passable so that they could be used freely by automobiles?

Mr. CAMMERER. It would only be a part of the general road program. If we had \$50,000 for Rocky Mountain Park we would immediately continue the work on that Fall River Road which was turned over to us by the State, and which some time will have to

be made a double way road. It will also have to be used to take out some of those hairpin turns. That would probably be where we would put the \$50,000 to make travel more safe there than it is at present. In the Yosemite there are so many places to put the money.

In Glacier National Park one of the buses went over on account of what they alleged to be the slippery condition of the road. We had taken our maintenance fund to gravel the center of the road. We want to use some of our larger funds to gravel away out to the edges in some of these dangerous places. We are asking for additional maintenance in Mesa Verde. Some of those hills can not be negotiated for two or three days at a time in the summer time, because they are so slippery. Wet weather makes those roads just a gumbo, and they are impassable for automobiles. When the car went over in Glacier Park the driver was killed and some of the visitors were seriously injured.

ALASKA ENGINEERING COMMISSION.

STATEMENT OF LIEUT. COL. FREDERICK MEARS, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE ALASKA ENGINEERING COMMISSION.

Senator SMOOT. Proceed.

Colonel MEARS. Senator, we are asking to increase the item in line 25, page 106, by striking out the figures \$1,000,000 and inserting \$1,200,860, which is the amount recommended by the Budget Committee.

In explanation of our request I will say that I had my examiner of accounts here in Washington during the time that this item was under consideration by the Budget Committee, and after going over the matter with the Secretary of the Interior the Secretary addressed a letter to the President under date of November 7, in which he requested the President to take up the matter with the Budget Committee in an effort to have them restore the amount of \$200,000 which they had cut from our estimate in going over our figures. In response to this request the Budget Committee restored the \$200,000 and so reported it to the House Appropriations Committee.

I appeared before the House Appropriations Committee in connection with our estimate, and the hearings at that time show that the chairman fully understood that all items of our estimate were a decrease from the corresponding year, including the total appropriations, but that there was a slight increase in the amount of supplies. This was fully explained to him in the hearings.

The necessity for the increase is largely brought about by the requirement for renewal of railroad crossties during the coming season. We have an item in our supplies of \$150,000 which had not appeared in the previous years.

We also wish to accumulate a small surplus of coal, and it is quite necessary that the amount of this maintenance estimate should be granted.

Senator SMOOT. How much will the surplus of coal cost you?

Colonel MEARS. We wish to get a few thousand tons on the ground in addition to the ordinary requirements, a matter of \$50,000 or something of that sort.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924.

51

Senator SMOOT. Do you know why the House cut that item?

Colonel MEARS. No, sir; I do not. I had no idea they were going to cut it. I do not know why they cut it to \$1,000,000.

Senator SMOOT. The Budget estimated for \$150,000 for ties.

Colonel MEARS. Yes.

Senator SMOOT. That is necessary is it?

Colonel MEARS. Yes, it is absolutely necessary. It is unsafe to maintain the roadbed without the new ties. The ties have been in there such a length of time that they have rotted and they require replacing.

Senator HARRIS. How much do you lack of completing the whole thing?

Colonel MEARS. This estimate you gentlemen are now working on will actually complete the road. There is an item of \$800,000 in here for construction.

Senator PHIPPS. So that the million and a quarter in round figures included by the Budget is not all for deficit in operations; that is, a property charge mainly?

Mr. FINNEY. The \$800,000 is in addition.

(Whereupon, at 1 o'clock and 21 minutes p. m., the committee adjourned.)