CENTENNIAL OF THE PAN AMERICAN CONGRESS

February 27, 1926.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Porter, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. J. Res. 150]

The Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which was referred House Joint Resolution 150, "To provide for the participation of the United States in a congress to be held in the city of Panama, June, 1926, in commemoration of the centennial of the Pan American Congress which was held in the city of Panama in 1826," having had the same under consideration, reports thereon with the recommendation that the resolution do pass without amendment.

A message from the President and letters from the Secretary of State and Director of the Bureau of the Budget are appended hereto and made part of this report.

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith a report by the Secretary of State concerning representation by the United States in a congress to be held in the city of Panama on June 18, 1926, to commemorate the centennial of the Pan American Congress which met at that city on June 22, 1826.

I share in the view that the Government of the United States should be represented in the celebration, and in accordance with the recommendation he makes ask of Congress legislation authorizing an appropriation of $1,500 for the expenses of delegates of the United States to the Pan American Congress in celebration of the centennial of the Pan American Congress of 1826, to be held in the city of Panama in June, 1926.

The White House, January 4, 1926.

Calvin Coolidge.

The President:

In pursuance of a law adopted by the National Assembly of Panama on July 8, 1925, the Government of Panama has invited the Government of the United States, as well as the governments of all the other Republics of the Western Hemi-

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sphere, to be represented by delegates at a Congress to be held in the city of Panama on June 18, 1926, in commemoration of the centennial of the Pan American Congress which, on the initiative of Gen. Simon Bolivar, was called to meet in the city of Panama on June 22, 1826, with a view to establishing a fraternal league among the Hispano-American Republics. It is a matter of historical knowledge that the Congress of 1826 was favorably considered by the Government of the United States, and that by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, President Adams commissioned Mr. Richard C. Anderson and Mr. John Sargent to be envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary to the assembly of American nations at Panama.

It is this department's understanding that the forthcoming Congress will be of a purely ceremonial and commemorative nature and that no discussion of international matters is contemplated. It is the department's further understanding that the invitation of the Government of Panama has already been accepted by a majority of the American Republics.

In conception and in fact, the Congress of 1826 marked the first serious attempt to afford the nations of this hemisphere an opportunity to meet in common council and to exchange ideas for the betterment of their nations with one another. It gave the earliest concrete expression to the ideals of international cooperation which, at a later date, culminated in the series of five international conferences of American States and in the founding of the Pan American Union. It would seem to be most fitting that the centenary should be appropriately celebrated under the auspices of the Government of Panama and that the Government of the United States should be represented in the celebration.

The undersigned, the Secretary of State, has the honor, therefore, to recommend to the President that the Congress of the United States be requested to enact legislation that will authorize the small appropriation of $1,500 for the payment of the expenses of the delegates of the United States to the Pan American Congress in celebration of the centennial of the Pan American Congress of 1826, to be held in the city of Panama on June 18, 1926.

A copy of a letter from the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, stating that the request is not in conflict with the financial program of the President is inclosed.

Respectfully submitted.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 23, 1925.

FRANK B. KELLOGG.

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, December 16, 1925.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I have your letter of December 11, 1925, inclosing copy of a proposed report to the President recommending that the Congress be requested to authorize an appropriation of $1,500 for the payment of expenses of delegates of the United States to the Pan American Congress to be held in the city of Panama on June 18, 1926, in celebration of the centennial of the Pan American Congress which met in that city in June, 1826, and asking whether the action proposed in the report is in harmony with the financial policy of the President.

It affords me pleasure to advise you that the proposed request for legislation authorizing an appropriation of $1,500 for the purpose stated is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

H. M. LORD, Director.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.