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

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7532]

The Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 7532) to provide payment for services rendered in preparation for the international conference on traffic in habit-forming narcotic drugs, having considered the same, reports thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

A letter from the Secretary of State dated April 12, 1926, is appended hereto and made part of this report.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, April 12, 1926.

The Hon. STEPHEN G. PORTER,
Chairman Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. PORTER: In compliance with your request for a report upon the bill (H. R. 7532) to provide payment for the services rendered by Mrs. E. W. Wright in connection with the preparation for the international conference on the traffic in habit-forming narcotic drugs, I take pleasure in saying that when it became apparent, in the autumn of 1923, that an international conference on the traffic in habit-forming narcotic drugs would be held, a committee to begin preparatory work for the conference was appointed consisting of yourself, Mr. Edwin L. Neville, an American consul, and Mrs. E. W. Wright (Mrs. Hamilton Wright). The committee was appointed on November 6, 1923. Neither you nor Mr. Neville was to receive compensation as members of the committee. In the letter appointing Mrs. Wright, however, it was stipulated, with reference to her compensation, that “there are as yet no special funds available for expenses in work of preparation, but I trust that you will find it possible to undertake this preliminary work pending the appropriation of money for this purpose.”

Mrs. Wright began her work on December 1, 1923. The appropriation for the expenses of this conference was provided in the deficiency bill which failed of enactment before the end of the session and only became law on December 5, 1924. The appropriation is not available for the compensation of Mrs. Wright.
for services rendered during the period from December 1, 1923, to June 15, 1924. Those services were such as would have merited compensation at the rate of $300 per month had an appropriation been available during the period of her employment, and since the Government has had the benefit of those services and since Congress made an appropriation of $35,000 for the expenses of the participation of the United States in the conference, including salaries in the District of Columbia or elsewhere, it would seem but just that authority should be granted for payment to Mrs. Wright from the appropriation of compensation for her services from December 1, 1923, to June 15, 1924, at the rate of $300 per month, or a total of $1,950. There is still an unexpended balance of the appropriation of $4,297.17 which would be available for the proposed payment to Mrs. Wright if Congress should be disposed to authorize it.

This matter has been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget which finds that, while it is not strictly a budgetary matter, it does not appear to be in conflict with the financial program of the President.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANK B. KELLOGG.