Mr. Underhill, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 12551]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 12551) for the relief of the Fidelity & Deposit Co., of Maryland, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass with the following amendment:

In line 6, page 1, strike out the word "maturing" and insert in lieu thereof "matured."

Attached herewith is the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury giving the full facts in the case.

Treasury Department,
Washington, June 12, 1926.

My Dear Mr. Chairman: I have received your letter of June 9, 1926, transmitting for report a copy of H. R. 12551, a bill for the relief of the Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland on account of the loss, theft, or destruction of 4½ per cent United States Treasury certificates of indebtedness Nos. 21431, 21432, and 21433 for $1,000 each, series TM–1924, issued March 15, 1923, and matured March 15, 1924.

In compliance with your request, there are transmitted herewith copies of papers on file in the department concerning this case.

As to the merits of the claim, the department has no information before it except that contained in the inclosed papers. These show that these certificates, from which all coupons had been detached, were forwarded by registered mail by the Ohio Valley Trust Co., of Coraopolis, Pa., to the Keystone National Bank, Pittsburgh, Pa., March 11, 1924, and receipted for by one of the employees of that bank. However, the Keystone National Bank was unable to find any trace of the certificates and believed that they had been swept into the wastebasket and sent with other papers to the paper mills and destroyed. No attempt has been made to furnish that clear and unequivocal proof of destruction required under section 3702 of the Revised Statutes, set forth in the inclosed Extract No. 16 from the regulations of the department, and the department has
no evidence before it showing that the Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland ac-
quired the right through subrogation.
Since these certificates, which matured March 15, 1924, are still outstanding, the Treasury Department will interpose no objection to the passage of the bill for the relief sought provided Congress is satisfied that the Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland has acquired full right to the certificates.
Your attention is directed to the fact that in line 6, on page 1 of the bill, "ma-
turing" should be changed to "matured."
A copy of this letter is inclosed.
Very truly yours,

A. W. MELLON, Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. CHARLES L. UNDERHILL,
Chairman Committee on Claims,
House of Representatives.