

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS, POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

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MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A DEFICIENCY ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1925 AND PRIOR YEARS, \$46,871.91, AND SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1926, \$440,000; IN ALL \$486,871.91; ALSO A DRAFT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION AFFECTING AN EXISTING APPROPRIATION

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APRIL 17, 1926.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, April 17, 1926.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for the consideration of Congress deficiency estimates of appropriation for the Post Office Department for the fiscal year 1925 and prior years, \$46,871.91, and supplemental estimates for the fiscal year 1926, \$440,000; in all, \$486,871.91; also a draft of proposed legislation affecting an existing appropriation.

The details of these estimates and an explanation of the proposed legislation, the necessities therefor, and the reasons for their submission at this time are set forth in the letter of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget transmitted herewith, with whose comments and observations thereon I concur.

Respectfully,

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,  
Washington, April 16, 1926.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration, and upon your approval for transmission to Congress, deficiency estimates of appropriations for the Post Office Department for the fiscal year 1925 and prior years, \$46,871.91, and supplemental estimates for the fiscal year 1926, \$440,000; in all, \$486,871.91; also a draft of proposed legislation affecting an existing appropriation.

## DEFICIENCY ESTIMATES

## OFFICE OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

Temporary city delivery carriers, 1924-----	\$342. 80
Special delivery fees, 1924-----	29. 11

These estimates cover expenditures allowed by the Comptroller General in the settlement of accounts for the fiscal year 1924 up to and including December 31, 1925, under the appropriation titles specified, in excess of the amounts previously appropriated therefor.

## OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

Payment of rewards, 1925-----	46, 500. 00
The appropriation for this purpose in the annual appropriation act for 1925 was \$30,000. A supplemental appropriation of \$46,500 is needed in order to discharge the pending claims of persons who have rendered valuable services in connection with the conviction, during the fiscal year 1925, of post-office burglars, highway mail robbers, etc.	
Total for deficiency estimates-----	46, 871. 91

## SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES

## OFFICE OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

Airplane service between New York and San Francisco, 1926-----	75, 000. 00
The establishment of contract air mail routes during April and May of the current fiscal year, to connect with the Government-operated transcontinental service at New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Salt Lake City, and Elko, makes it necessary to increase the schedule on the overnight service between New York and Chicago from five to seven trips per week, and will require the flying of second sections a considerable portion of the time on the overnight route; also on the transcontinental route from New York to Salt Lake City.	

The contract air mail law was enacted February 2, 1925, after the appropriation for the present fiscal year was made, and the additional service could not be anticipated at that time. As soon as planes of larger carrying capacity are obtained the flying of these extra trips, or second sections, will not be required.

Railway Mail Service, travel allowances, 1926-----	55, 000. 00
The amount of this estimate is made necessary by the additional service which it has been necessary to put on to handle the increased mails for Florida and other Southeastern States, including changes in train schedules and organizations, which could not have been anticipated at the time previous estimates were made. Of the \$2,675,000 appropriated under this item in the annual appropriation act for the fiscal year 1926, \$149,921 was used to reduce the amount that otherwise would have been estimated for to provide for increased expenditures authorized by the postal reclassification act approved February 28, 1925. In these circumstances the amount requested in the present estimate is well within the amount authorized to be expended in the annual appropriation act.	

Electric and cable car service, 1926-----	60, 000. 00
An order of the Interstate Commerce Commission dated June 2, 1925, authorized increased rates from July 1, 1925, for electric-car service. The increase in expenditures under this order will amount to approximately \$90,000 a year, with the result that the amount appropriated for the fiscal year 1926 for electric and cable car service is \$60,000 less than will be required to meet the increased expenditures, which are itemized as follows:	

Line transportation-----	\$682, 500
Temporary service-----	3, 000
Side service-----	24, 500
Total-----	710, 000

## OFFICE OF THE FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

Star-route service, 1926----- \$250,000.00

It is essential that star-route service be provided when necessary. During the current fiscal year there has been an unusual demand for new service of this character, particularly to supplement and supersede service heretofore provided by railway. The appropriation of \$12,700,000 for the current fiscal year has been found to be insufficient to pay for service already established and which it will be necessary to establish during the remainder of the fiscal year, and the exigencies of the service will, it is estimated, require the expenditure of \$250,000 additional.

Total for supplemental estimates----- 440,000.00

Total for all estimates----- 486,871.91

## DRAFT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION AFFECTING AN EXISTING APPROPRIATION

## OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

Payment of rewards, 1926: That not to exceed \$10,000 of the appropriation "Payment of rewards, 1926," may be expended, in the discretion of the Postmaster General, for the purpose of securing information concerning violations of the postal laws and for services and information looking toward the apprehension of the criminals.

The object of the proposed legislation is to increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 the amount that may be expended for the purposes stated, the former amount having been found inadequate.

The above estimates, comprising seven items of appropriation, and the one item of proposed legislation affecting an existing appropriation, are required to meet unforeseen contingencies or unavoidable deficiencies which have occurred during the fiscal years indicated, and since the transmission of the Budgets for the relative fiscal years.

Approval of the estimates and the proposed legislation is recommended.

Very respectfully,

H. M. LORD,  
Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

The PRESIDENT.

*Deficiency estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, by the Post Office Department*

Detailed objects of expenditure	Total amount to be appropriated under each head of appropriation	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924
Temporary city delivery carriers: For pay of substitutes for letter carriers absent with pay, and of auxiliary and temporary letter carriers at offices where city delivery is already established (acts Mar. 2, 1907, vol. 34, p. 1206; June 5, 1920, vol. 41, pp. 1049-1050; Mar. 1, 1921, vol. 41, pp. 1151-1152; Feb. 14, 1923, vol. 42, p. 1252; Apr. 2, 1924, vol. 43, p. 47; Feb. 28, 1925, vol. 43, pp. 1059-1065; Mar. 4, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1337; Mar. 3, 1926)	\$342.80	\$9,409,714.32
Special delivery fees: For fees to special-delivery messengers (acts Mar. 3, 1885, vol. 23, p. 338; Mar. 3, 1903, vol. 32, p. 1175; Feb. 14, 1923, vol. 42, p. 1252; Feb. 28, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1069; Mar. 4, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1337; Mar. 3, 1926)	29.11	6,933,921.39
Total-----	371.91	

*Deficiency estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, by the Post Office Department*

Detailed objects of expenditure	Total amount to be appropriated under each head of appropriation	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925
Payment of rewards: For payment of rewards for the detection, arrest, and conviction of post-office burglars, robbers, and highway mail robbers: <i>Provided</i> , That rewards may be paid, in the discretion of the Postmaster General, when an offender of the class mentioned was killed in the act of committing the crime or in resisting lawful arrest: <i>Provided further</i> , That no part of this sum shall be used to pay any rewards at rates in excess of those specified in Post Office Department Order 7708, dated July 1, 1922: <i>Provided further</i> , That of the amount herein appropriated not to exceed \$5,000 may be expended, in the discretion of the Postmaster General, for the purpose of securing information concerning violations of the postal laws and for services and information looking toward the apprehension of criminals (act Apr. 4, 1924, vol. 43, p. 85) -----	\$46,500.00	\$30,000.00

*Supplemental estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926, by the Post Office Department*

Detailed object of expenditure	Total amount to be appropriated under each head of appropriation	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926
Airplane service between New York and San Francisco: For the operation and maintenance of the airplane mail service between New York, N. Y., and San Francisco, Calif., via Chicago, Ill., and Omaha, Nebr., and for the installation, equipment, and operation of the airplane mail service by night flying, and to enable the department to make the additional charges for both night and day service on first-class mail matter in accordance with existing law, including necessary incidental expenses and employment of necessary personnel: <i>Provided</i> , That \$15,000 of the amount appropriated for the fiscal year 1926 in the act of Jan. 22, 1925, shall be immediately available for the payment of personal services in the District of Columbia and incidental and travel expenses in connection with such personnel (act of Jan. 22, 1925, vol. 43, p. 785) Mar. 3, 1926 -----	\$75,000.00	\$2,810,000.00
Railway Mail Service—travel allowances: For travel allowance to railway postal clerks and substitute railway postal clerks (acts Mar. 4, 1911, vol. 36, p. 1336; Aug. 24, 1912, vol. 37, p. 548; Mar. 3, 1917, vol. 39, p. 1065; Feb. 28, 1919, vol. 40, p. 1195; June 5, 1920, vol. 41, p. 1051; Jan. 22, 1925, vol. 43, p. 785; Feb. 28, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1062; Mar. 3, 1926 -----	55,000.00	3,997,314.89
Electric and cable car service: For electric and cable car service (acts July 2, 1918, vol. 40, p. 748; Jan. 22, 1925, vol. 43, p. 786) -----	60,000.00	650,000.00
Star route service: For inland transportation by star routes (excepting service in Alaska) including temporary service to newly established offices R. S. 3965, 3971, 3975; act Jan. 22, 1925, vol. 43 p. 787) -----	250,000.00	12,700,000.00
<b>Total</b> -----	<b>440,000.00</b>	-----

#### PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Payment of rewards: That not to exceed \$10,000 of the appropriation "Payment of rewards, 1926," may be expended, in the discretion of the Postmaster General, for the purpose of securing information concerning violations of the postal laws and for services and information looking toward the apprehension of criminals.