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

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 17063]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 17063) for the relief of C. G. Duganne and A. N. Ross, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

The facts are fully set forth in House Report No. 2125, Sixty-ninth Congress, second session, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

[House Report No. 2125, Sixty-ninth Congress, second session]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 17063) for the relief of C. G. Duganne and A. N. Ross, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass.

Attached herewith is the correspondence from the chairman of the Federal Trade Commission giving the facts in the case and which is made a part of this report.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,
Washington, March 23, 1926.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress, copy of a proposed relief bill which will authorize the General Accounting Office to credit the accounts of C. G. Duganne, former disbursing clerk of the Federal Trade Commission, and A. N. Ross, present disbursing clerk the amounts disallowed in their disbursing accounts, totaling $42.80 and $28.75, respectively.

A statement is also inclosed indicating the separate items covered thereby together with reasons assigned for the disallowances and why it was impossible to submit satisfactory explanations to the General Accounting Office.

The payments were made in good faith and the Government received the benefit of the services rendered. At the time the settlements including these disallowances were made the persons to whom the payments were made had left the Government service, and they refused to reply to letters requesting explanations needed to secure credit for the items by the General Accounting Office. Numerous efforts were made by the disbursing clerks to have the necessary
explanations submitted with a view of securing credit for the amounts involved through the General Accounting Office, but without success.

Authority for the submission of this matter to Congress was granted by the Bureau of the Budget under date of February 19, 1925 (copy of letter inclosed), but as the contemplated adjournment of Congress on March 4, 1925, made it impossible to present same at the last session, it became necessary to postpone action until the present session.

In view of the above it is therefore recommended that the action necessary to secure passage of the inclosed relief bill be taken.

By direction of the commission.

Cordially yours,

[J. F. Nugent, Chairman]

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, D. C.

Hon. Vernon W. Van Fleet,

Chairman Federal Trade Commission,

Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Chairman: I have your letter of February 16, which is in further reference to a letter from this bureau of February 9, 1925, concerning certain legislation which you propose for the relief of Mr. Duganne and Mr. Ross, disbursing clerks of the Federal Trade Commission.

Cases of this nature fall within the provisions of Circular No. 49, Bureau of the Budget, 1921, and conformably with this circular you were advised in the letter of February 9, 1925, that the proposed legislative relief in these two cases would not be in conflict with the financial program of the President.

There is no objection to your recommending to Congress the enactment of legislation which will afford relief to these two disbursing officers. Should you desire to take this action, you may state in your recommendation to Congress that this matter has been presented to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, who advises that the proposed relief legislation is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

Very truly yours,

H. M. Lord, Director.