BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPART-MENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1927, TO REMAIN AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 30, 1928, FOR THE ENLARGE-MENT OF INVESTIGATIONS RELATING TO POTENTIAL RUBBER-PRODUCING PLANTS, \$200,000

FEBRUARY 19, 1927.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, February 18, 1927.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 1927, to remain available until June 30, 1928, for the enlargement of investigations relating to potential rubber-producing plants, \$200,000.

The details of this estimate, the necessity therefor, and the reason for its 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, February 18, 1927.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 1927, to remain available until June 30,

1928, for the enlargement of investigations relating to potential rubber-producing plants, \$200,000.

General expenses, Bureau of Plant Industry: For acclimatization and

The purpose of this supplemental estimate is to enable the Department of Agriculture to enlarge the work now under way in tropical America and to inaugurate similar work in the Philippine Islands. Further details of this estimate are set forth in the letter from the Secretary of Agriculture which is transmitted herewith.

This estimate of appropriation is required to meet a contingency which has arisen since the transmission of the Budgets for the fiscal years 1927 and 1928, and its transmission to Congress is recom-

mended.

Very respectfully,

H. M. Lord,

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

The President.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Washington, February 17, 1927.

Hon. H. M. LORD,

Director, Bureau of the Budget.

Dear General Lord: It is recommended that an item for \$200,000 be included in a deficiency bill at the present session of Congress to enable the department to enlarge its investigations of rubber production, giving especial consideration to the establishment of a rubber experiment station in the Philippines, as recommended by the Governor General of the Philippines and the War Department. The following language is suggested:

To enable the Bureau of Plant Industry to enlarge its investigations upon rubber, including the establishment of practical experiments with different systems of producing rubber in the Philippine Islands and in tropical America, \$200,000, to remain available until June 30, 1928.

The War Department has suggested assigning for the experimental work of this department an area presumably suitable for rubber experiments at Parang, on the south coast of Mindanao, in the northwest corner of Cotabato Province. The land is believed to be well adapted for rubber culture. The location was selected as a military reservation on account of the proximity of a harbor, and is supplied with water and an equipment of buildings, so that expense and delay of opening a new location would be avoided. The area included in the reservation is about 6,000 acres, which would be ample for any experimental purpose.

If it is decided to undertake rubber experiments in the Philippines this location apparently should be considered as a suitable starting point, though attention would also need to be given to the conditions and problems of other districts, if any large development of rubber

planting in Mindanao is expected in the next few years.

The purposes for which the supplemental appropriation is requested both with respect to the enlargement of the work now under way in tropical America and the inauguration of work in the Philippines, have been considered jointly with the War Department and the Department of Commerce, and these departments are in accord with the Department of Agriculture in this recommendation. The agricultural factors of production must be determined in order to give effect to the investigations by the Department of Commerce of sources of crude rubber and other essential materials under foreign control.

Our contacts with the War Department are through the Bureau of Insular Affairs, regarding the land offered for rubber experiments in the Philippines, and through the commodities division, office of the Assistant Secretary, regarding the need of increasing the production of rubber in accessible regions of tropical America, to avoid the danger of an interruption of imports from the East Indies, in possible

military emergencies.

The usual estimate forms covering this item are inclosed.

Sincerely yours,

W. M. JARDINE, Secretary.

Supplemental estimate of appropriation required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, by the Department of Agriculture

General expenses, Bureau of Plant Industry: For acclimatization and adaptation investigations of cotton, corn, and other crops introduced from tropical regions, including the same objects specified under this head in the act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928: Provided, That this additional sum of \$200,000 may be used for explorations, researches, and field experiments relating to potential rubber-producing plants, to remain available until June 30, 1928

\$200,000