

ESTIMATE FOR IRRIGATION OF FLATHEAD RESERVA-
TION, MONT.

LETTER

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A COPY OF A COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE
INTERIOR SUBMITTING AN ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR
IRRIGATING SYSTEMS IN THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVA-
TION, MONT.

JANUARY 6, 1908.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be
printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, December 27, 1907.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the considera-
tion of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the
Interior, of the 20th instant, submitting an estimate of appropria-
tion for irrigating systems on the Flathead Indian Reservation,
Mont., \$50,000.

Respectfully,

J. B. REYNOLDS,
Acting Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 20, 1907.

SIR: There is inclosed herewith a draft of an item to appropriate
\$50,000 for preliminary surveys, plans, and estimates of irrigating
systems to irrigate the allotted lands of the Indians of the Flathead
Reservation in Montana and the unallotted irrigable lands to be dis-
posed of under the act of April 23, 1904 (33 Stat. L., 302), and to
begin the construction of the same, the cost of the entire work to be

reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of the lands within the reservation, together with a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I respectfully recommend that you forward the inclosed letter and draft to the Speaker.

Very respectfully,

JAMES RUDOLPH GARFIELD,

Secretary.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Item.

For preliminary surveys, plans, and estimates of irrigating systems to irrigate the allotted lands of the Indians of the Flathead Reservation in Montana and the unallotted irrigable lands to be disposed of under the act of April twenty-third, nineteen hundred and four, entitled "An act for the survey and allotment of lands now embraced within the limits of the Flathead Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and the sale and disposal of all surplus lands after allotment," and to begin the construction of the same, fifty thousand dollars, the cost of said entire work to be reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of the lands within said reservation.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 20, 1907.

SIR: The act of April 23, 1904 (33 Stat. L., 302), provides for the survey and allotment of lands embraced within the limits of the Flathead Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and the sale and disposal of all surplus lands after allotment.

The reservation is situated in a semiarid region, so that irrigation is essential to successful farming. The Indian Office has made several investigations to ascertain the cost of constructing irrigation works on the reservation for the benefit of the Indians, but no definite plans for the irrigation of the entire irrigable area have ever been made.

During the last summer the Director of the Reclamation Service, under my informal authority, made a hasty reconnaissance of the reservation, but the funds available were insufficient to make a thorough investigation.

As the allotments are nearly completed and the surplus lands will be opened in the near future, the preliminary surveys and estimates for an adequate system of irrigation should be made and the work begun at the earliest possible date. I therefore have caused to be prepared the accompanying draft of an item appropriating \$50,000 for the preliminary surveys, plans, and estimates of irrigation systems to irrigate the lands of the reservation and to begin the construction of the same, the entire cost of the work to be reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of the lands.

I recommend that it receive the favorable consideration of the Congress.

Very respectfully,

JAMES RUDOLPH GARFIELD,

Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Item.

For preliminary surveys, plans, and estimates of irrigating systems to irrigate the allotted lands of the Indians of the Flathead Reservation in Montana and the unallotted irrigable lands to be disposed of under the Act of April twenty-third, nineteen hundred and four, entitled "An Act for the survey and allotment of lands now embraced within the limits of the Flathead Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and the sale and disposal of all surplus lands after allotment," and to begin the construction of the same, fifty thousand dollars, the cost of said entire work to be reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of the lands within said reservation.