

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BUREAU OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1927, FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR

JANUARY 4, 1926.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered
to be printed

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, December 23, 1925.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress supplemental estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, amounting to \$370,000, for the Department of the Interior.

The details of these estimates, the necessity 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, December 21, 1925.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration, and upon your approval for transmission to Congress, supplemental estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, amounting to \$370,000, for the Department of the Interior.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Irrigation systems, Flathead Indian Reservation, Mont. (reimbursable)----- \$350, 000

At the time of the preparation of the Budget for 1927 an engineering study of the cost and advantages of a hydroelectric power development for this project was under way. This study, recently completed, justifies the belief that the construction of a power plant of a capacity of 5,000 horsepower, at a cost of \$786,000, will render unnecessary the construction of storage reservoirs at approximately the same cost; will provide for the pumping of a needed additional water supply for the lands of the project; and will furnish surplus electric power for use by the farms, towns, and industries of the Flathead Valley, the revenues from the sale of which power applied as provided in the text of the estimate herewith will insure the success of the irrigation project.

It is believed that the development of the power project can be carried on most advantageously and economically under a two-year program, with the expenditure of \$380,000 during the first year. The Budget for 1927 carries \$30,000 which may be applied to this purpose. The estimate herewith is intended to provide the additional amount of \$350,000 necessary to carry out the first year's program.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mesa Verde National Park----- \$20, 000

There is a serious water shortage at Mesa Verde National Park, and with the annual increase in the number of visitors to the park, an additional water supply must be made available at an early date. In August and September, 1925, the permanent and tourist population amounted to somewhat more than 200 persons per day, and the water supply was somewhat less than 600 gallons per day, making less than 3 gallons per capita per day.

A study of the situation, and of the most practicable plan for securing an adequate water supply, by a competent engineer, had not been completed at the time of the preparation of the Budget for 1927. The report of this engineer, now available, recommends construction of a concrete basin and underground reservoir for catching and storing the winter and spring precipitation, as probably the most feasible and economical solution of the problem. The purpose of this estimate of \$20,000 is to provide the necessary funds for carrying out this plan to secure an increased water supply.

The above estimates of appropriations are required to meet unforeseen contingencies which have arisen since the transmission of the Budget for the fiscal year 1927, and their approval is recommended.

Very respectfully,

H. M. LORD,

Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

The PRESIDENT.

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

INDIAN SERVICE

Irrigation Systems, Flathead Reservation, Mont. (reimbursable): For an additional amount for continuing construction, maintenance, and operation of the irrigation systems on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana, by and under the direction of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, including the purchase of any necessary rights or property, \$350,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount of \$575,000 appropriated for the fiscal year 1927 not to exceed \$30,000 shall be available for operation and maintenance of the project, the balance to be available for the construction items hereinafter enumerated in not to exceed the following amounts: Pablo Feeder Canal enlargement, \$100,000; Moiese Canal enlargement, \$15,000; South Side Jocko Canal, \$40,000; Hubbart Feeder Canal, \$7,500; Camas A Canal, \$2,500; continuing construction of power plant, \$380,000, of which sum \$15,000 shall be immediately available for additional surveys and preparation of plans: *Provided further*, That no part of this appropriation, except the \$15,000 herein made immediately available, shall be expended on construction work until an appropriate repayment contract, in form approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall have been properly executed by a district or districts organized under State law embracing the lands irrigable under the project, except trust patent Indian lands, which contract, among other things, shall require repayment of all construction costs heretofore or hereafter incurred in behalf of such lands, with provision that the total construction cost on the Camas Division in excess of the amount it would be if based on the per acre construction cost of the Mission Valley Division of the project shall be held and treated as a deferred obligation to be liquidated as hereinafter provided. Such contract shall require that the net revenues derived from the operation of the power plant herein appropriated for shall be used to reimburse the United States in the following order: First, to liquidate the cost of the power development; second, to liquidate payment of the deferred obligation on the Camas Division; third, to liquidate construction cost on an equal per acre basis on each acre of irrigable land within the entire project, and fourth, to liquidate operation and maintenance costs within the entire project. Provision shall also be contained therein requiring payment of operation and maintenance charges annually in advance of each irrigation season and prohibit the granting of a water right to or the use of water by any individual owning more than 160 acres of land irrigable under constructed works within the project after the Secretary of the Interior shall have issued public notice in accordance with the act of May 18, 1916 (39 Stat. 123-130); all lands, except lands owned by individual Indians, at the date of public notice in excess of 160 acres not disposed of by bona fide sale within two years after said public notice shall be conveyed in fee to the United States free of encumbrance to again become a part of the public domain under contract between the United States and the individual owners at the appraised price fixed at the instance of the Secretary of the Interior, such amount to be credited in reduction of the construction charge against the land within the project retained by such owner. All lands so conveyed to the United States shall be subject to disposition by the Secretary of the Interior in farm units at the appraised price, to which shall be added such amount as may be necessary to cover any accruals against the land and other costs arising from conditions and requirements prescribed by said Secretary: *Provided further*, That trust patent Indian lands shall not be subject to the provisions of the law of any district created as herein provided for but shall upon the issuance of fee patent therefor, be accorded the same rights and privileges and be subject to the same obligations as other lands within such district or districts: *Provided further*, That all construction, operation and maintenance costs,

except such construction costs on the Camas Division held and treated as deferred obligation herein provided for, on this project shall be and are hereby made a first lien against all lands within the project, which lien upon any particular farm unit shall be released by the Secretary of the Interior after the total amount charged against such unit shall have been paid and a recital of such lien shall be made in any instrument issued prior to such release by the said Secretary. The contracts executed by such district or districts shall recognize and acknowledge the existence of such lien: *Provided further*, That pending the issuance of public notice the construction assessment shall be at the same rate heretofore fixed by the Secretary of the Interior but upon issuance of public notice the assessment rate shall be 2½ per cent per acre, payable annually, in addition to the net revenues derived from operations of the power plant as hereinbefore provided, of the total unpaid construction costs at the date of said public notice (acts Apr. 30, 1908, vol. 35, p. 83, sec. 1; May 18, 1916, vol. 39, p. 140, sec. 10; Mar. 3, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1153)-----

\$350,000

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mesa Verde National Park: Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado:
For increased water supply (acts June 29, 1906, vol. 34, p. 616;
Mar. 3, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1177) (submitted)-----

20,000

Total for 1927-----

370,000



Further, That all construction operation and maintenance costs...
...shall be and are hereby made a first lien against all lands within the project...
...the total amount charged against such unit shall have been paid...
...a recital of such lien shall be made in any instrument issued prior to such release...
...by the said Secretary. The contracts executed by such district or districts shall recognize and acknowledge the existence of such lien:
...*Provided further*, That pending the issuance of public notice the construction assessment shall be at the same rate heretofore fixed by the Secretary of the Interior but upon issuance of public notice the assessment rate shall be 2½ per cent per acre, payable annually, in addition to the net revenues derived from operations of the power plant as hereinbefore provided, of the total unpaid construction costs at the date of said public notice (acts Apr. 30, 1908, vol. 35, p. 83, sec. 1; May 18, 1916, vol. 39, p. 140, sec. 10; Mar. 3, 1925, vol. 43, p. 1153)-----