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General deficiency bill

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GENERAL DEFICIENCY BILL.

JUNE 18, 1892.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SAYERS, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 9284.]

In presenting the bill making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year 1892, and for prior years, the Committee on Appropriations submit the following report in explanation thereof:

The bill is based mainly upon estimates submitted in House Executive Documents numbered 9, 51, 65, 82, 83, 94, 109, 113, 119, 131, 133, 144, 145, 170, 188, 192, 194, 195, 199, 201, 202, 203, 205, 206, 210, 211, 215, 216, 217, 222, 224, 230, 233, 234, 243, 245, 251, 253, 254, 257, and 263, and Senate Executive Documents numbered 24, 37, and 69, which call for appropriations in the aggregate amounting to \$7,959,705.80.

The whole amount appropriated by the bill is \$4,871,385.88, as follows:

Section 1:

State Department	\$19,662.83
Treasury Department.....	242,605.92
Interstate Commerce Commission	15,000.00
District of Columbia.....	52,874.53
War Department	236,237.30
Navy Department	34,615.30
Interior Department.....	403,263.62
Eleventh Census.....	910,000.00
Post-Office Department	960,204.86
Agricultural Department	316.69
Department of Justice	1,411,035.02
House of Representatives	65,104.02
Public Printer.....	383.40
United States courts judgments	11,665.33
Court of Claims judgments	97,228.78
Fox and Wisconsin rivers improvements	109,022.33

4,569,219.93

Section 2:

Audited claims..... 302,165.95

Total..... 4,871,385.88

During the present session of Congress appropriations have been made to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the support of the Government during the current and prior fiscal years as follows:

Act March 8, 1892, Census, Indians, etc.....	\$428, 664. 17
Act March 18, 1892, Department of Agriculture.....	160, 000. 00
Act March 18, 1892, public printing, etc.....	479, 641. 70
Act May 13, 1892, urgent deficiency act.....	1, 228, 636. 11
Act June —, 1892, pensions.....	7, 688, 332. 00
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Amount in accompanying bill.....	9, 985, 273. 98
	4, 871, 385. 88
	<hr/>
Total.....	14, 856, 659. 86

The bill appropriates no money for payment to any of the bond-aided Pacific railroads.

ELEVENTH CENSUS.

The bill appropriates \$910,000 for continuing the work of the Eleventh Census, including farms, homes, and mortgages, and for printing the final reports which have been authorized, and it is proposed by the terms of the appropriation to make the same available until expended.

The act of March 3, 1889, providing for the taking of the Eleventh Census, limited the cost thereof to \$6,400,000, exclusive of the cost of printing; the acts of February 22 and January 23, 1890, to ascertain mortgage indebtedness on farms and homes, and increasing the compensation of supervisors, further increased the limit of cost for the whole work to \$7,487,500. There has already been appropriated toward the work, exclusive of printing, the sum of \$7,825,000. Of the sum appropriated in the accompanying bill, \$660,000 is for the work exclusive of printing, making the total appropriations to date, including the amount herein proposed, \$8,485,000; and it is estimated by Superintendent Porter that to continue the work \$290,000 additional will have to be appropriated at the next session of Congress for the remainder of the fiscal year 1893.

For the printing of the census, including the final volumes of the reports, \$850,000 has been appropriated heretofore. Of this sum it is estimated that \$200,000 will not be used prior to July 1, next, and will, under the law, be covered back into the Treasury.

In the accompanying bill it is proposed to appropriate \$250,000 additional for printing the final reports.

A majority of the committee deemed it proper to embrace this appropriation, which is to be expended during the fiscal year 1893 for the work of the census, in the deficiency bill for two reasons: First, because the full amount of expenditures authorized for the work of the Eleventh Census has been appropriated for, and in that sense all further appropriations for the work are in the nature of deficiencies; second, because nearly one-half of the whole cost of the Eleventh Census to date has been appropriated for in deficiency acts.

PUBLIC BUILDING AT MILWAUKEE, WIS.

On page 4 of the bill the following provision is recommended:

That so much of the proceeds of the sale of the old custom-house and post-office site and building in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as may be necessary is hereby made available for the payment of the rent of such premises, at the rate prescribed in the act of Congress approved March 3, 1891, for such time as may be necessary to rent the same from the purchaser thereof during the construction of the new United States post-office, court-house, and custom-house building in said city.

NAVY PAY CLAIMS.

On page 63 of the bill the following provision is recommended in connection with the appropriation to pay certain audited claims for "Pay of the Navy:"

Provided, That no part of this sum shall be used for the payment of any claim for sea pay on receiving, training, or practice ships, or for the payment of any claim which may have been allowed under the decisions of the Supreme Court which have been adopted by the accounting officers as a basis for the allowance of said claims, which accrued prior to July 16, 1880.

And following the above provision, there is also recommended and embraced in the bill as follows:

That hereafter the accounting officers of the Treasury shall not receive, examine, consider, or allow any claim against the United States for sea pay or commutation of rations which has been or may be presented by officers of the Navy, their heirs or legal representatives, under the decisions of the Supreme Court which have heretofore been adopted as a basis for the allowance of such claims which accrued prior to July 16, 1880.

That hereafter officers serving on receiving ships, training, and practiceships, when not cruising, shall be considered as on shore duty, and entitled to shore-duty pay; and the accounting officers of the Treasury are prohibited from allowing credit to any disbursing officers of the Navy who may allow or pay such officers other than shore-duty pay while so serving.

On page 65 of the bill the following is recommended in connection with the appropriation to pay certain audited claims for "provisions of the Navy:"

Provided, That no part of this sum shall be used for the payment of any claim for provisions of the Navy on training, receiving, or practice ships, or for the payment of any claim which may have been allowed under the decisions of the Supreme Court which have been adopted by the accounting officers as a basis for the allowance of said claims which accrued prior to July 16, 1880.