

## APPRAISERS OF MERCHANDISE, BALTIMORE, MD.

JANUARY 26 (calendar day, JANUARY 30) 1925.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. REED of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7918]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7918) to diminish the number of appraisers at the port of Baltimore and for other purposes, having had the same under consideration, report it back to the Senate without amendment, and recommend that the bill do pass.

The purpose of this bill is to abolish one of the positions of appraiser of merchandise at the port of Baltimore, Md., and to increase the salary of the remaining appraiser to \$4,500 per annum. The present salary is \$3,000. Under the reclassification act the first assistant of the appraiser now receives \$3,700, the second assistant \$3,500, and the third assistant \$3,300.

The Treasury Department is of the opinion that there is no need for more than one appraiser at Baltimore. In view of the volume of business transacted at that port it would appear that a salary of \$4,500 is not excessive. The Bureau of the Budget states that the proposal is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

The following table, comparing the business transacted at Baltimore during the fiscal years 1907, 1914, and 1923, shows that while the volume of business has increased the cost of collecting customs receipts has decreased:

	1907	1914	1923	Increase
				<i>Per cent</i>
Total receipts.....	\$5, 296, 975. 28	\$3, 081, 956. 48	\$9, 781, 435. 52	84
Total expenditures.....	\$281, 157. 77	\$270, 098. 60	\$299, 082. 89	6
Value of imports.....	\$37, 668, 754. 00	\$33, 624, 533. 00	\$83, 808, 844. 00	122
Value of exports.....	\$104, 484, 540. 00	\$109, 774, 709. 00	\$110, 503, 697. 00	5
Entries of merchandise.....	10, 764	13, 239	15, 444	43
Immediate transportation entries received and issued.....	4, 146	5, 950	5, 841	40
Vessels entered.....	997	968	1, 381	38
Vessels cleared.....	1, 012	997	1, 343	32
Documents issued.....	1, 082	1, 140	1, 023	15
Cost of collecting \$1.....	\$0. 05243	\$0. 06699	\$0. 0305	141

1 Decrease.