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1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
{ No. 546

COINAGE OF 50-CENT PIECES IN CONNECTION WITH THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION TO BE HELD IN SAN DIEGO, CALIF., IN 1935 AND 1936

APRIL 15 (calendar day, APRIL 23), 1935.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. FLETCHER, from the Committee on Banking and Currency,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5914]

The Committee on Banking and Currency, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5914) to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in connection with the California Pacific International Exposition to be held in San Diego, Calif., in 1935 and 1936, having considered the same, report favorably thereon to the Senate, and recommend that the bill do pass without amendment.

Representative George Burnham, of the Twentieth Congressional District of California, who introduced the bill, appeared before the House Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures and assured that committee that there would be absolutely no expense to the Government of any kind. He submitted the following letter to the acting chairman of that committee:

Hon. JOHN COCHRAN,
*Acting Chairman Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This bill (H. R. 5914) which was referred to your committee and which I am now asking you to give consideration to is for the purpose of authorizing the coinage of 50-cent pieces in connection with the California-Pacific International Exposition, to be held in San Diego, Calif., opening on May 29 of this year and carrying through into 1936.

The exposition company is requesting that 50-cent pieces to the number of not more than 250,000 of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, be coined and the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparation of this coinage be borne by the exposition company and to be issued at par upon the request of the California-Pacific International Exposition Co. or its duly authorized agents. In addition to paying for the models and dies the exposition company, or its duly authorized agents, will place in escrow a sufficient amount to protect the Government against any loss which might be sustained in the coinage of these 50-cent pieces.

The exposition is being held for the purpose of inspiring national confidence and a higher appreciation of American institutions, stimulating business and industry, assisting the Government in bringing a more abundant life to its people and creating a better understanding among the nations of the world. It represents an investment of close to \$20,000,000 and, as you know, the Federal Government is participating to the extent of \$350,000. We are expecting an attendance of from 7 to 10 million during the period the exposition is to run. Preparation of the grounds and buildings for this exposition has given employment to approximately 3,000 otherwise idle men for the past 12 months. Many of America's great industrial and commercial enterprises are participating and the flags of some 29 nations will be represented.

Sincerely yours,

GEO. BURNHAM.