

MARYLAND CASUALTY CO. ET AL.

APRIL 15, 1926.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

Mr. UNDERHILL, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1361]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1361), for the relief of the Maryland Casualty Co., the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., of Baltimore, Md., and the Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass.

Attached herewith is Senate Report No. 461, which is made a part of this report.

[Senate Report No. 461, Sixty-ninth Congress, first session.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1361) for the relief of the Maryland Casualty Co., the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., of Baltimore, Md., and the Fidelity & Deposit Co., of Maryland, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass with the following amendments:

On page 1, line 5, strike out the word "unregistered."

On page 1, line 7, after the figures "\$1,000" add the words "payable to bearer."

The Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., on August 5, 1922, sent by registered mail to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond United States Treasury certificate of indebtedness No. 21492 for \$1,000. The certificate was lost or stolen from the mails. The claimants on their bonds reimbursed the Federal reserve bank on account of the loss.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem this certificate of indebtedness. The Government is fully protected, inasmuch as the claimants shall first file in the Treasury Department a bond in the penal sum of double the amount of the principal and interest of said certificate of indebtedness and the interest payable thereon, in such form and with such surety or sureties as may be acceptable to the Secretary of the Treasury to indemnify and save harmless the United States for any loss on account of the lost, stolen, or destroyed certificate of indebtedness and coupon.

The bill has the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The facts are fully set forth in the following correspondence, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 2, 1925.

MY DEAR SENATOR: I have received your letter of January 27, 1925, requesting a report on S. 4017, a bill for the relief of the Maryland Casualty Co., the United

States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., of Baltimore, Md., and the Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland, on account of the loss, theft, or destruction of 5½ per cent United States Treasury certificate of indebtedness No. 21492 for \$1,000, Series B-1922, issued August 1, 1921, and matured August 1, 1922, payable to bearer, with the coupon representing interest thereon from February 1, 1922, to August 1, 1922, attached.

There are inclosed herewith copies of papers on file in this department, except certain papers forwarded by William C. Prentiss, attorney at law, 523 Mills Building, Washington, D. C., under date of January 28, 1925. In accordance with Mr. Prentiss's request, the original papers forwarded by him, instead of copies thereof, are transmitted herewith.

As to the merits of the claim, the department has no information before it except as shown in the inclosed papers. These show that the certificate was sent by registered mail from the Home National Bank, Sutton, W. Va., to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, on August 5, 1922; that it was received by the said branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and lost, stolen or destroyed while in its custody; and that the Maryland Casualty Co., the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., of Baltimore, Md., and the Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland have reimbursed the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond on account of the loss, theft, or destruction of this certificate.

Since the certificate matured in 1922 and is still outstanding, and since, so far as the department is aware, no claimant other than the above listed companies has appeared, the Treasury will interpose no objection to the passage of a bill for the relief of said companies on account of the loss, theft, or destruction of this certificate.

However, it is suggested that S. 4017 be amended by striking out the word "unregistered" in line 5 on the first page of the printed form and adding the words "payable to bearer" just after the words "of the denomination of \$1,000" in line 7 on the first page of this form.

A copy of this letter is inclosed.

Very truly yours,

A. W. MELLON, *Secretary of the Treasury.*

HON. ARTHUR CAPPER,
*Chairman Committee on Claims,
United States Senate.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 28, 1925.*

In re Senate bill 4017, for the relief of Maryland Casualty Co. et al.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: I am informed that Senate bill 4017, for the relief of the Maryland Casualty Co. et al., has been referred to you for report. I am directed by the Maryland Casualty Co. to submit to you the inclosed statement of facts relating to the subject of the said bill and the following documents relating to the loss of the Treasury certificate in question and reimbursement of the amount thereof by the Maryland Casualty Co. et al. to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Va., with the resulting subrogation of the surety companies to ownership of the lost Treasury certificate, viz:

- (1) Photostat copy of bond and rider.
- (2) Original receipt from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for payment of the lost United States certificate of indebtedness, No. 21492, Series B-1922, dated August 1, 1921, and maturing August 1, 1922, for \$1,000, and the interest coupon, mentioned and described in the bill for \$27.50.
- (3) Affidavits of M. B. James, F. W. Wrightson, A. C. Thompson, H. P. Pennell, Louise Carroll, Jennie C. Swanson, Frank W. Grafflin, respectively, and of Ethel Clair Bell et al., employees in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, constituting the proof by Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond of the loss of certificate of indebtedness, No. 21492.

On behalf of the Maryland Casualty Co. et al., I have to request that these papers be incorporated in your report upon the bill.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM C. PRENTISS.

JANUARY 17, 1925.

STATEMENT OF FACTS RELATING TO BILL FOR THE RELIEF OF MARYLAND CASUALTY CO. ET AL., IN CONNECTION WITH LOSS OF $5\frac{1}{2}$ PER CENT UNREGISTERED UNITED STATES CERTIFICATE OF INDEBTEDNESS, SERIES B-1922, ISSUED AUGUST 1, 1921, AND MATURING AUGUST 1, 1922, SERIAL NO. 21492, FOR \$1,000 AND COUPON FOR \$27.50, SIX MONTHS' INTEREST PAYABLE AUGUST 1, 1922.

The surety companies involved executed their bond under date of August 1, 1922, insuring the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Va., indemnifying the insured from loss of money or securities, to an amount not exceeding \$500,000, among other things, through misplacement or destruction.

On August 5, 1922, the cashier of the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., sent by registered mail to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond the certificate in question for collection and credit. The registered package was received at the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond on August 9, 1922, and delivered by the assistant shipping teller, who received the same, to a teller in the collection department, who delivered the same to a clerk in the collection department in order that proper record might be made and that the certificate might be forwarded to the main office of the Federal reserve bank at Richmond, Va., to be paid. No further record of the said package or the said certificate appears in the records of the said Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond thereafter, after investigation and recognition of its liability for the loss of the said certificate, credited the amount of principal and interest thereof to the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., and made demand upon the surety companies who had underwritten the bond aforesaid, supported by the affidavit of the cashier of the Home National Bank and the affidavits of the numerous employees of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and on December 5, 1922, the three surety companies paid the amount of the loss, \$1,027.50 to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, which executed a formal receipt therefor, whereby the three surety companies, through subrogation to the rights of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, became owner of the said lost certificate.

The bill for the relief of the three surety companies follows the form of H. R. 6383 and 6384 for the relief of the Maryland Casualty Co. and other surety companies, passed at this session, whereby the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to redeem, in favor of the surety companies, certificates lost by banks insured under similar bonds.

The existing laws of the United States authorize the redemption of such certificates in case of destruction thereof upon the holder giving a bond to the United States, but do not cover the case of a lost or misplaced certificate where it can not be shown that the certificate has been destroyed, so that in such latter cases it is necessary to secure special legislation for the relief of the owner of the lost or misplaced certificate.

A photostat copy of the bond in the present case given by the surety companies to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and the originals of the affidavits referred to and the receipt given by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, will be furnished to the committee to which the proposed bill is referred.

Received of the Maryland Casualty Co., of Baltimore, Md., the Fidelity & Deposit Co., of Baltimore, Md., and the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., of Baltimore, Md., the sum of \$342.50 each, or a total of \$1,027.50, in full settlement and satisfaction of a claim under banker's blanket bond issued by the said three companies, said bond being No. 169623, dated August 1, 1922, for and on account of the loss of a United States certificate of indebtedness No. 21492, series B, 1922, dated August 1, 1921, and maturing August 1, 1922, for \$1,000, and having attached thereto interest coupons amounting to \$27.50.

This receipt is executed in quadruplicate, and in witness thereof we have hereunto set our hand and seal at Richmond, Va., this 5th day of December, 1922

[SEAL.]

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND,
By CHAS. A. PEPLE, Deputy Governor.

Attest:

GEO. H. KEESEE, Cashier.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, *County of Braxton:*

M. B. James, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is assistant cashier of the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., and that on August 5, 1922, he sent by registered mail to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond a certain United States certificate of indebtedness, serial No. 21492, Series B-1922, dated August 1, 1921, maturing August 1, 1922, for \$1,000, having a coupon for \$27.50, representing six months' interest due August 1, 1922, thereto attached, intending that the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond should collect the said certificate and coupon and credit him with the amount thereof.

The said certificate was shipped in a certain registered-mail package, listed by the post office at Sutton, W. Va., as No. 130, and this deponent received the receipt from the postmaster of Sutton, W. Va., therefor, but did not receive any acknowledgment or advice of credit from the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond until reconciling his account with the statement sent him by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond on or about September 11, 1922, when this deponent discovered that he had not been credited with the amount of the said certificate and coupon. Thereupon on or about September 11, 1922, he wrote to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond informing them that he had sent the certificate and coupon and asking why he had not been credited. He was thereupon informed that the letter containing the said certificate and coupon had apparently been received by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, but that the certificate and coupon had been lost. The Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., has since been credited by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond with the sum of \$1,027.50, being the face amount of the said certificate and coupon.

M. B. JAMES.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

W. C. BAXTER, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires March 11, 1928.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

City of Baltimore:

F. W. Wrightson, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is manager of the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that he has no personal knowledge of the receipt or disposition of registered package No. 316630 received by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond from the Home National Bank of Sutton, W. Va., on August 9, 1922, and said to contain United States certificate of indebtedness No. 21492, Series B-1922, dated August 1, 1921, maturing August 1, 1922, and having one coupon for \$27.50 representing six months' interest due August 1, 1922, thereto attached.

This deponent further says that he has carefully read the affidavits of Jennie C. Swanson, H. P. Pennell, and A. C. Thompson, dated the 9th day of November, and hereto attached, and he verily believes that the statements in these said affidavits are true, and that in so far as the said affidavits refer to the books and records of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond they are true.

This deponent further says that on August 9, 1922, he was the manager of the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that the following were all the persons employed in the said collection department, and that the duties of the said persons were performed in an inclosed space or cage to which only the said persons and this deponent had the right of access: Miss E. C. Bell, Mr. G. C. Purcell, Mr. Vernon Jefferies, Miss J. Erdman, Miss E. M. Cooke, Miss L. Landerkin, Mr. A. Englar, and Mr. E. A. Caskey, Louise Carroll, Jennie C. Swanson, H. P. Pennell, and Frank W. Grafflin.

This deponent further says that this deponent did not know that the said registered package or certificate of indebtedness had been received by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond until September 11, 1922, when the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., in reconciling its accounts with the accounts of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond wrote that this certificate had been shipped to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for credit, but that they had not received credit for the amount. Thereupon this deponent investigated and discovered that the records of the Baltimore branch of

the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond showed that the registered letter said to have contained this certificate had been received and the said certificate had apparently been received and handled by the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, but had not been sent to the main office of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for payment, as in the ordinary course should have been done. This deponent, therefore, immediately caused a search to be made in the waste paper removed from his department on or about the time mentioned, but could find no trace of the said certificate or the envelope containing it in such waste paper. Some of the waste paper removed from his department at or about this time had been sold to a paper mill.

The Treasury Department of the United States was immediately notified that the said certificate was lost, and was requested to notify the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in the event that the said certificate or coupon attached thereto was presented, but this deponent is advised that the said certificate or coupon has never been presented to the Treasury Department of the United States for payment, and this deponent therefore verily believes that the said certificate and coupon are lost and were probably destroyed among the waste paper removed from the premises of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

F. W. WRIGHTSON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN, *Notary Public.*

STATE OF MARYLAND, *City of Baltimore.*

A. C. Thompson, being duly sworn, deposes and says that on August 9, 1922, he was employed as assistant shipping teller by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that it was his duty to receive from the post office registered mail addressed to the said Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that on August 9 he did receive from the post office in Baltimore, Md., registered letters addressed to the said bank and entered them upon a registered-mail book kept by him in the course of his employment. It appears from the said book so kept by him that on the said day he received, among other packages, a certain package described by the Baltimore post office as No. 316630, sent from the Home National Bank of Sutton, W. Va., as No. 130 of the post office of Sutton, to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that he gave a receipt for this package to the post office at Baltimore.

This deponent is not able to say whether or not he opened the said package, because he has no recollection of the particular package. It was his custom to open such packages as did not show upon the outside for what department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond they were intended, and to deliver such packages and their contents to the department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for which they were intended, and to deliver unopened all other packages to the department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for which they were intended. It appears from the said registered-mail book that he delivered the said package No. 316630 (Baltimore number) and its contents to H. P. Pennell, a teller in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, who signed a receipt therefor on the said registered-mail book.

This deponent has no other or further knowledge concerning the disposition of the said registered-mail package.

A. C. THOMPSON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN,
Notary Public and United States Customs Notary.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
City of Baltimore:

H. P. Pennell, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he was on August 9, 1922, a teller in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that it was his duty, among other things, to

receive from A. C. Thompson and other persons registered mail addressed to or intended for the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and to deliver the packages so received to the proper clerk in the collection department. It appears from the registered-mail book kept by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond that on August 9 this deponent received a certain package described as No. 316630, sent by the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and said to contain one United States certificate of indebtedness, Series B-1922, dated August 1, 1921, maturing August 1, 1922, serial No. 21492, for \$1,000, and one coupon for \$27.50, representing six months' interest due August 1, 1922, attached.

This deponent has no especial recollection of the said package or its contents, but it was his duty and he was accustomed to open said packages if they had not already been opened and to deliver the said package and its contents to the proper clerk in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. It appears from the records and receipts in the said department that he did deliver the said package and its contents to Miss Jennie C. Swanson, a clerk in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, in order that a proper record might be made of the said certificate and that it might be forwarded to the main office of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, at Richmond, Va., to be paid.

This deponent has no other or further knowledge of the disposition of the said certificate or the coupon attached thereto.

H. P. PENNELL.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN, *Notary Public.*

STATE OF MARYLAND,

City of Baltimore:

Miss Louise Carroll, being duly sworn, deposes and says that on August 9, 1922, she was in the employ of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in the collection department, but that she has no recollection and knows nothing concerning the receipt or disposition of a certain registered package No. 316630, sent by the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and said to have contained a United States certificate of indebtedness No. 21492, series B-1922, for the face amount of \$1,000, dated August 1, 1921, and maturing August 1, 1922, and having attached thereto one coupon, with six month's interest, due August 1, 1922.

LOUISE CARROLL.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN,

Notary Public and United States Customs Notary.

My commission expires May 1, 1924.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

City of Baltimore:

Miss Jennie C. Swanson, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is employed in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that among other things it is her duty to receive and make proper records of the receipt of United States certificates of indebtedness sent to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for collection, and it appears from the records and receipts made by her that on August 9, 1922 she received one certificate of indebtedness of the United States for \$1,000, maturing August 1, 1922, sent by the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., and she issued to the auditing department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond a receipt or memorandum showing that the said certificate had been duly received and entered for collection by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

This deponent has no special recollection of the disposition made by her of the said certificate, but it was her duty and she was accustomed to deliver certificates of indebtedness received under similar circumstances to the country collection division of the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond to be forwarded to the main office of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, at Richmond, Va., at which the said certificate was payable. The records of the collection department do not show and this deponent does not remember whether or not she did deliver the said certificate to the said country collection division, but there is no record of its having been received or handled by the said country collection division, and this deponent verily believes that either the said certificate was mislaid while in her possession or handed by her to some employee in the country collection division and by such employee mislaid.

This deponent has no other or further recollection of the disposition made of the said certificate.

J. C. SWANSON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN, *Notary Public.*

STATE OF MARYLAND,
City of Baltimore:

Frank W. Grafflin, being duly sworn, deposes and says that on August 9, 1922, he was in the employ of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in the collection department, but that he has no recollection and knows nothing concerning the receipt or disposition of a certain registered package No. 316630, sent by the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and said to have contained a United States certificate of indebtedness No. 21492, Series B-1922, for the face amount of \$1,000, dated August 1, 1921, and maturing August 1, 1922, and having attached thereto one coupon, with six months' interest, due August 1, 1922.

FRANK W. GRAFFLIN.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN,

Notary Public and United States Customs Notary.

My commission expires May 1, 1924.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
City of Baltimore, ss:

The undersigned, being duly sworn, depose and say that they are and were, on the 9th day of August, 1922, employed in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and that they and Frank W. Grafflin, Louise Carroll, H. P. Pennell, Jennie C. Swanson, and F. W. Wrightson, manager, were, as they verily believe, all the persons employed in the collection department of the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond on August 9, 1922.

And these deponents each for him or herself deposes and says that he or she has no knowledge or recollection of the receipt or disposition of registered package No. 316630, sent from the Home National Bank, of Sutton, W. Va., to the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, or of United States certificate of indebtedness No. 21492, Series B-1922, for the face amount of \$1,000, dated August 1, 1921, and maturing August 1, 1922, and having a coupon for \$27.50, representing six months' interest due August 1, 1922, thereto attached.

ETHEL CLAIR BELL.
GEORGE C. PURCELL.
VERNON JEFFRIES.
J. ERDMAN.

E. M. COOKE.
MARIE LANDERKIN.
ARTHUR N. ENGLAR.
EDWARD A. CASKEY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 1922.

[SEAL.]

FELIX R. SULLIVAN, *Notary Public.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 1, 1923.

SIRS: There has been received in this office from the Maryland Casualty Co., Baltimore, Md., a report of the loss of 5½ per cent Treasury certificate of indebtedness No. 21492 for \$1,000, series B-1922, issued August 1, 1921, matured August 1, 1922, payable to bearer.

Since the certificate was lost after the date of maturity, you are instructed to hold the same pending investigation, in case it is presented at your bank, and to notify this office at once.

Respectfully,

C. N. MCGROARTY,
Chief Division of Loans and Currency.

(Copies sent to all Federal reserve banks except Richmond.)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 1, 1923.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND,
Bond Department, Richmond, Va.

SIRS: Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated January 29, 1923, in which you state 5½ per cent Treasury certificate of indebtedness No. 21492 for \$1,000, series B-1923, issued August 1, 1921, matured August 1, 1922, payable to bearer, was lost by the Baltimore branch of your bank after date of maturity.

In view of the fact that the loss occurred after the date of maturity, in case the certificate is presented at your bank you are instructed to hold the same pending investigation and to notify this office at once.

The other Federal reserve banks have also been instructed to take this action in regard to the certificate.

It is noted from the Maryland Casualty Co.'s letter that your bank has been reimbursed by them on account of the loss of the certificate.

Respectfully,

C. N. MCGROARTY,
Chief, Division of Loans and Currency.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 1, 1923.

Mr. F. E. PAUSCH,
Superintendent Salvage Bureau,
Maryland Casualty Co., Baltimore, Md.

Reference: 570-B-Fidelity. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. Mysterious disappearance.

SIR: Reference is made to your letter dated January 12, 1923, in which you state that your company has reimbursed the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond on account of the loss of 5½ per cent Treasury certificate of indebtedness No. 21492 for \$1,000, Series B-1922, issued August 1, 1921, matured August 1, 1922, payable to bearer, with coupon No. 2 attached thereto.

You are advised that a memorandum of the loss of the certificate has been entered on the records of the department. The Secretary of the Treasury has no authority under existing law to grant relief on account of lost or stolen United States bearer obligations. Under the provisions of sections 3702-3703 of the Revised Statutes relief can be given as to bearer obligations only when they are destroyed or defaced and proper proof is given and indemnity furnished. There is therefore no specific relief which the department can grant in this case at the present time.

However, in view of the fact that the certificate was lost after the date of maturity, the Federal reserve banks have been notified to hold it pending investigation, if the same is presented. In the event of the presentation of the certificate you will be advised of the facts and circumstances thereof.

The Register of the Treasury, who records paid coupons, has been requested to advise you in case of presentation of coupon No. 2.

Respectfully,

C. N. MCGROARTY,
Chief, Division of Loans and Currency.

Countersigned:

H. B. VROOMAN,
Acting Manager Claims Section.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND,
January 29, 1923.

Mr. C. N. McGROARTY,
Chief, Division of Loans and Currency,
Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

Reference: CL-B.

SIR: In reply to your letter of January 25 we are pleased to advise you that the \$1,000 certificate of indebtedness, serial No. 21492, series B-1922, dated August 1, 1921, matured August 1, 1922, was forwarded by the Home National Bank, Sutton, W. Va., to the Baltimore branch, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Baltimore, Md., on August 5, 1922, and was received by the branch and lost there. This would, of course, account for the loss taking place after the maturity date.

Respectfully,

W. W. DILLARD, Assistant Cashier.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 25, 1923.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND,
Bond Department, Richmond, Va.

SIRS: This office has been advised by the Maryland Casualty Co., Baltimore, Md., of the loss by your bank of 5½ per cent Treasury certificate of indebtedness No. 21492 for \$1,000, series B-1922, issued August 1, 1921, matured August 1, 1922, payable to bearer.

It is requested that this office be advised at once whether the loss of the certificate occurred after the date of maturity.

Respectfully,

C. N. McGROARTY,
Chief, Division of Loans and Currency.

MARYLAND CASUALTY CO.,
Baltimore, January 12, 1923.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Division of Loans and Currency, Washington, D. C.

(570-B-Fidelity. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. Mysterious disappearance.)

GENTLEMEN: This company, under its blanket found issued on behalf of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, has reimbursed the bank for the loss of a United States certificate of indebtedness serial No. 21492, series B-1922, dated August 1, 1921, maturing August 1, 1922, for \$1,000, having a coupon for \$27.50, representing six months' interest to August 1, 1922, attached thereto.

Will you please adjust your records so that we will be notified immediately if this certificate, or coupon, is presented for payment?

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy, I am,

Very truly yours,

F. E. PAUSCH, Superintendent.

○

