

PERMANENT ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL ROAD
CONGRESSES

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

TOGETHER WITH A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF
STATE EXPRESSING CONCURRING VIEWS OF THE SECRETARIES
OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE RECOMMENDING APPROPRIATIONS TO ENABLE THE UNITED STATES TO ACCEPT MEMBERSHIP IN AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS OF THE PERMANENT ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL ROAD CONGRESSES

APRIL 5, 1926.—Read; referred to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads and ordered to be printed

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit a report from the Secretary of State upon the desirability of providing for membership on the part of the United States in the Permanent Association of International Road Congresses. The views expressed by the Secretary of State are concurred in by the Secretaries of Agriculture and of Commerce. I recommend, therefore, that the Congress, preferably by joint resolution, authorize an appropriation of not exceeding \$3,000 per annum to enable the United States to accept membership in this important association and such further amounts as may be necessary for the expenses of participation in the meeting of such congresses and of the executive committee thereof.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
April 5, 1926.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, April 2, 1926.

The PRESIDENT:

In 1920 the Department of Agriculture recommended that the United States should become a member of the Permanent Association of the International Road Congresses, and on December 15, 1922, the President recommended to Congress that the necessary legislative authority be granted. On February 5, 1923, the Senate passed a resolution in accordance with the recommendation of the President, but it failed to receive the consideration of the House of Representatives because of lack of time in the closing days of the session.

This matter has been the subject of consideration recently on the part of the Departments of State, Agriculture, and Commerce, and it is believed to be distinctly in the public interest that the United States should become a member of the association. This association was formed at Paris in 1908 and has held congresses in Brussels in 1910; London in 1914; Seville in 1923; and will hold another congress in Milan in September, 1926. The purpose of the association is to promote and record progress in the improvement of highways and in the efficient development of highway transportation throughout the world. It collects information and issues a bulletin in three languages at least every three months. Its business affairs are managed by a permanent international commission composed of members representing the various participating governments. All of the leading countries of the world, except Russia, Mexico, and the United States, are members.

Each Government has the right to one representative for each 1,000 francs contributed annually to the support of the association, but the total number of such representatives from any one government is limited to 15. It is the view of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce, concurred in by this department, that the United States should have the privilege of sending the maximum number of delegates and that it should, therefore, make the maximum annual contribution to the support of the association; that contribution would be, for 15 delegates, 15,000 francs per annum, which at the normal value of the franc would be approximately \$3,000.

It is desirable that expenses of sending one or two delegates to the meeting of the association every three years and of sending a representative to the meeting of the executive committee of the congress should be authorized in order that they may in the usual manner be provided for in the discretion of Congress in the annual appropriation acts.

It is the view of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce that great benefits to highway transportation in the United States would result from representation of the United States in the Permanent Association of the International Road Congresses, and I therefore recommend that the Congress be requested to authorize to be appropriated not exceeding \$3,000 per annum to enable the United States to accept membership in the association and such further amounts as may be necessary for the expenses of participation by the United States in the meetings of the congresses and of the executive committee thereof.

It will be noted from the inclosed communication from the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, to whom the matter was referred, that the proposed action is not in conflict with your financial program.

Respectfully submitted.

FRANK B. KELLOGG.

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, April 1, 1926.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I have from Assistant Secretary of State Carr a letter dated April 1, 1926, inclosing copy of a proposed report to the President, recommending that Congress be requested to authorize an appropriation not exceeding \$3,000 per annum to enable the United States to accept membership in the Permanent Association of the International Road Congresses and such further amounts as may be necessary for the expenses of participation of the United States in the meetings of the congresses and of the executive committee thereof, and asking that you be informed whether this recommendation will be in accordance with the financial program of the President.

In reply I have to advise you that the proposed request for legislation authorizing appropriations for the purposes stated is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

H. M. LORD, *Director.*

The SECRETARY OF STATE.

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