

POSTMASTER AT SANDBORN, IND.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

RETURNING

WITHOUT APPROVAL HOUSE BILL 19762, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO REIMBURSE THE POSTMASTER AT SANDBORN, INDIANA."

FEBRUARY 27, 1909.—Read; referred to Committee on Claims and ordered to be printed.

To the House of Representatives:

For the reasons stated in the attached communication from the Postmaster-General, I return without approval H. R. 19762, entitled "An act to reimburse the postmaster at Sandborn, Indiana." The postmaster's actual loss was \$358.90. By some mistake the payment authorized is \$450.43, or an excess of \$91.53. It appears that the loss was due to the carelessness of the postmaster in any event, but even if this were not so he should not be allowed \$91.53 more than the actual loss sustained.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 26, 1909.

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Washington, D. C., February 25, 1909.

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I return herewith "An act for the relief of John Anderson," with the following statement of facts pertaining thereto:

John Anderson, postmaster at Sandborn, Ind., presented to this department a claim for credits in his postal and money-order accounts, on account of losses resulting from the burglary of the post-office at Sandborn, as follows: For postal funds, \$91.26; for postage stamps, \$358.90; and for money-order funds, \$13.83. Upon examination of the claim it was disallowed, for the reason that the outer door of the safe from which the moneys and stamps were stolen was not properly

locked and was opened by the burglars without the use of force; but on a subsequent rehearing of the case, it appeared that the money was in the inner compartment of the safe, which was properly locked, and was blown open by the burglars; and the postmaster was allowed credit for the postal and money-order funds stolen, in amounts as set forth above.

The purpose of the act appears to be to reimburse the postmaster for the loss of the postage stamps stolen; but the value of the stamps is but \$358.90, whereas the amount of payment authorized is \$450.43, or \$91.53 in excess of the actual loss sustained.

I therefore recommend that the act be not approved.

Faithfully, yours,

G. V. L. MEYER.

The PRESIDENT, *The White House.*

H. R. 19782. Sixtieth Congress of the United States of America: At the Second Session, Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the seventh day of December, one thousand nine hundred and eight.]

An Act To reimburse the postmaster at Sandborn, Indiana.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to pay John Anderson, postmaster at Sandborn, Indiana, four hundred and fifty dollars and forty-three cents, being the amount burglarized from the post-office safe at said place February eighteenth, nineteen hundred and seven, the circumstances of which burglary being beyond the postmaster's control.

J G CANNON

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS

Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate.

I certify that this act originated in the House of Representatives.

A. McDOWELL,
Clerk.

By WM. J. BROWNING,
Chief Clerk.