

Calendar No. 841

81ST CONGRESS }
1st Session }

SENATE

} REPORT
} NO. 833

MONUMENT TO SACAJAWEA

AUGUST 3 (legislative day, JUNE 2), 1949.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. O'MAHONEY, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 806]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 806) authorizing the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of Sacajawea, the Indian woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark as a guide and interpreter on their expedition to the Northwest, at or near the place of her burial on the Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyo., having considered the same, report thereon with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendment:

On page 1, line 12, strike out the figures "\$275,000" and insert in lieu thereof the following: "\$15,000".

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, which explored the Northwest, was one of the most gallant and daring in the history of our country and its results were among the most far-reaching. The explorers received very valuable service from an Indian woman, Sacajawea, a name that means Bird Woman. To keep alive her memory will not only be a just recognition of important service to the cause of civilization, but also will be an acknowledgment of the debt we owe to those who dwelt here before us.

Lewis and Clark engaged Sacajawea's husband, Toussaint Charbonneau, as an interpreter and paid him \$500 or 20 percent of their appropriation for services which he could render only second-hand through his wife, whom they paid not 1 cent for reasons stated by them that they had not enough money at their command to compensate her for her contribution toward the success of their expedition—the outstanding expedition of its kind and purpose in all the centuries. Sacajawea not only served as a guide and interpreter but rendered equally important service in saving compass, maps, medical supplies, and other important equipment from an upset canoe; as medicine woman in collection of mountain herbs and treatment of mountain fever; in securing horses from her own tribe for mountain transporta-