DESIGNATION OF AMERICAN PATENT SYSTEM WEEK

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President, by request, I introduce, for appropriate reference, a joint resolution to designate the week of October 15, 1961, as the American Patent System Week.

Mr. President, in support of the joint resolution I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD at this point a copy of a letter from the Secretary of Commerce to the Honorary LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the Senate, and a statement in support of the resolution.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The joint resolution will be received and appropriately referred; and, without objection, the letter and statement will be printed in the RECORD.

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 122) authorizing the President of the United States to designate the week of October 15, 1961, as the "American Patent System Week," introduced by Mr. McCLELLAN, was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The letter and statement presented by Mr. McCLELLAN are as follows:

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C. July 19, 1961.

Hon. LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
President of the Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: There are enclosed four copies of a draft resolution for the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Commerce and the Commissioner of Patents and such other persons or groups as they may designate to make suitable arrangements for an appropriate observance of the American Patent System on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the Patent Act of 1836, which occurred on July 4, 1961.

This act created the present examination system for granting patents and established the U.S. Patent Office as a separate and distinct bureau with a Commissioner of Patents as its head. It is expected that the three-millionth patent under the principles of this act will be granted in September 1961.

The patent grant has been a traditional incentive for the promotion of the useful arts thereby benefiting the welfare of the people of the United States and of the world. This function of the patent grant has assumed added significance in view of the present day necessity of maintaining the technological lead and increasing the rate of economic growth of the Nation. It appears proper, therefore, that the 125th anniversary of this act should be observed in a fitting manner.

The Department urges early congressional action to enable proper preparations to be made by October 18, 19, and 20, 1961, when it is contemplated the ceremonies of this Celebration will be held.

We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that no objection from the standpoint of the administration's program would be taken to the transmission of this draft joint resolution.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD GUDEMAN,
Under Secretary of Commerce.

STATEMENT OF NEED FOR AND PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION

July 4, 1961, marked the 125th anniversary of the Patent Act of 1836, which created the present examination system for granting patents and which established the U.S. Patent Office as a separate and distinct bureau with a Commissioner of Patents as its head. It is expected that the three millionth patent under this act will be granted in September 1961.

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It appears reasonable therefore, that this anniversary of this important Patent Act and the establishment of the U.S. Patent Office should be observed in a fitting manner. Accordingly, the Department of Commerce is proceeding with plans for an industrial exhibit of an educational value to the public, a series of seminars by industrialists, engineers, inventors, members of the patent profession and guests from foreign patent offices on the theme of the Patent System and the Modern Economy, tours of the Patent Office and discussions of patent office operational problems with foreign officials. The observance will include a banquet for approximately 1400 persons. The Department of Commerce does not believe that an appropriation from the Congress is necessary and none is requested.

The resolution provides for the Secretary of Commerce and the Commissioner of Patents and such other persons or groups as they may designate to make suitable arrangements for an appropriate observance of this event which is so advantageous to this Nation and to other countries of the world.

A prime desire of the Department of Commerce is to place the American patent system and the U.S. Patent Office before the public with appropriate publicity. The encouragement of invention is essential to our welfare. It is felt that congressional recognition of the anniversary will help to make the people more keenly aware of the great part which the American Patent System has played and is still playing in the continued development of our Nation.