BILL	DATE	PAGE(S)
S. 1228	2/19/65	3125

ACTION: Introduced by Mr. Tydings.

REVISION OF FEES PAYABLE TO COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Mr. TYDINGS. Mr. President, I introduce, for appropriate reference, a bill to revise the schedule of fees payable to the Commissioner of Patents in connection with patent and trademark matters.

This bill is endorsed both by the American Bar Association and the American Patent Law Association. Its objective is substantially to increase the revenue of the Patent Office to the point where a reasonable proportion of the costs of operation of that office will be paid by those who directly employ its services. A further purpose of the bill is to obtain the desired increased revenue immediately, without causing material changes in the patent system, pending the study of that system now being undertaken by the Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee, under the able leadership of Senator McCLELLAN. Further, the bill is intended to provide this added revenue with as little administrative complexity and expense as possible.

The most striking difference between this bill and the bill drafted by the Patent Office and introduced at administration request by Senator McCLELLAN, S. 730, is that this bill would avoid the adoption of the controversial maintenance fee system by which the lives of the majority of U.S. patents would be materially shortened. Moreover, since this bill would not depend upon collection of maintenance fees a number of years hence, it would produce more revenue immediatley.

I do not purport to be an expert in patent matters, and do not now take sides between the proponents of the maintenance fee system and the proponents of the fixed fee system. My investigation of this matter convinces me, however, that this bill has the support of a significant segment of our patent bar. It should, in my judgment, be considered along with the administration proposal embodied in S. 730.

I would hope that this bill would receive consideration, along with the bill introduced by the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. McCLELLAN] at the hearings recently announced by Senator McCLELLAN's subcommittee for March 3.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The bill will be received and appropriately referred.

The bill (S. 1228) to fix certain fees payable to the Patent Office, and for other purposes, introduced by Mr. TYDINGS, by request, was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.