Mr. ADDONIZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks at this point in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. ADDONIZIO. Mr. Speaker, the Senate approval of the public housing program, even though on a disappointingly limited basis, is gratifying to those of us charged with the responsibility for this legislation. It is one of the most pressing issues before the Nation. It is my earnest hope that the House will accept the Senate public housing provision so that the fight on slums can go forward. The slum situation throughout the country is a disgrace and unworthy of the American people. I ask the opponents of the program to read the following correspondence from a constituent of mine and think that I would be sitting up here thinking that I would be sitting up here

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Mr. Speaker, the board of trustees of Southern University announce that the honorary degree of doctor of laws will be conferred on George Y. Harvey, clerk of the Committee on Appropriations of the House, at its graduating exercises on June 9, 1954.

No honor could be more worthily conferred. As clerk of the Committee on Appropriations of the House, Mr. Harvey is one of the most eminent men who have served in that capacity since the establishment of the committee in 1865, including Robert J. Stevens, 1865; James M. Court, 1884; Marshall C. Shafter, 1916; John C. Pugh, 1945; and George Y. Harvey, 1947.

Like his predecessors, Mr. Harvey has served under both Democratic and Republican control of the House in what is probably one of the most responsible and exacting positions on the Hill, if not in the entire Government.

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am informed that this would be the first case in which a World War II veteran would, in effect, be placed on the compensation rolls by special legislation. Since there are well over a half million veterans of World War II alone whose claims for disability compensation have been denied in accordance with public laws because the disabilities for which compensation is claimed were not incurred in or aggravated by their military service, approval of this bill would constitute a far-reaching precedent, which I cannot justify.

Dwight D. Eisenhower,
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 7, 1954.

The SPEAKER. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal.

Without objection, the bill and message will be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

There was no objection.

MRS. ANN ELIZABETH CAULK—
VETO MESSAGE (H. DOC. NO. 427)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States, which was read by the Clerk:

To the House of Representatives:
I am returning herewith without my approval H. R. 4532, 83d Congress, "An act for the relief of Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Caulk."

The bill would authorize and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Caulk the sum of $1,082.80 in full settlement of all her claims against the United States for non-service-connected death pension she would have received if the claim she filed on March 29, 1948, had been considered as having been filed on April 1, 1944.

David H. Caulk, a veteran of honorable service in the Spanish-American War, married the claimant on November 7, 1931, and died of a non-service-connected cause 12 days later. Mrs. Caulk's claim for death pension filed December 31, 1931, was denied for the reason that she had not married the veteran prior to the then applicable marriage delimiting date, September 1, 1922. Effective April 1, 1944, the delimiting date was extended by law to January 1, 1938, rendering Mrs. Caulk potentially eligible for death pension benefits to which she was previously not entitled. However, she did not file a new claim for death pension until March 29, 1948, and under the law, pension benefits were paid prospectively from that date.

It appears that favorable action by the committees which consider H. R. 4532 was based on the theory that the delay in filing claim was due to ignorance of the law on the part of Mrs. Caulk. This reason applied with equal force to many other claimants. Her case certainly arouses one's sympathy, but to prefer it for special treatment to the exclusion of other similar cases would be unwarranted and discriminatory. Further, approval of the bill might serve as a precedent for similar legislation in other cases.

I am opposed to setting aside the principles and rules of administration prescribed in the public laws governing veterans' benefit programs. Uniformity and equality of treatment to all who are similarly situated with the steadfast rule if the Federal programs for veterans and their dependents are to be operated successfully. Approval of H. R. 4532 would not be in keeping with these principles.

Dwight D. Eisenhower,
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 7, 1954.

The SPEAKER. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal.

Without objection, the bill and message will be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

There was no objection.

OFFICE OF ALIEN PROPERTY, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States, which was read, and, together with accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce:

To the Congress of the United States:
I transmit herewith, for the information of the Congress, the annual report of the Office of Alien Property, Department of Justice, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1953.

Dwight D. Eisenhower,
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 7, 1954.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND INDEPENDENT EXECUTIVE BUREAUS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, CORPORATIONS, AGENCIES AND OFFICES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1955

Mr. Phillips. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 5859) making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, corporations, agencies, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, disagree to the amendments, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF MAILS ON MOTOR-VEHICLE ROUTES

The Clerk called the bill (S. 2773) to amend the act entitled "An act to provide for the transportation and distribution of mails on motor-vehicle routes," approved July 11, 1940 (54 Stat. 756).

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

BE IT ENACTED, etc., That section 1 of the act entitled "An act to provide for the transportation and distribution of mails on motor-vehicle routes," approved July 11, 1940 (54 Stat. 756), is hereby amended by striking out that part which precedes the first proviso, and by inserting in lieu thereof, the following: "The Postmaster General is authorized to use Government-owned motor vehicles or contract for carrying the mails and postal transportation clerks on routes between points where in his judgment, conditions justify the operation of such service