

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 \$1,682.80 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 prece-

dent 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 must be 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. 8583) 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 California? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none, and appoints the following conferees: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. JONAS of North Carolina, Mr. KRUEGER, Mr. TABER, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. YATES, Mr. CANNON.

MENOMINEE TRIBE OF INDIANS

Mr. MILLER of Nebraska submitted a conference report and statement on the bill (H. R. 2828) to amend the act of Congress of September 3, 1935 (49 Stat. 1085), as amended.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The SPEAKER. This is Consent Calendar day. The Clerk will call the first bill on the Consent Calendar.

**TAX REFUNDS ON CIGARETTES
LOST IN THE FLOODS OF 1951**

The Clerk called the first bill, H. R. 4319, to authorize tax refunds on cigarettes lost in the floods of 1951.

Mr. BYRNES of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that this bill be passed over without prejudice.

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

There was no objection.

CITY OF CHANDLER, OKLA.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 1081) to amend the act of February 15, 1923, to release certain rights and interests of the United States in and to certain lands conveyed to the city of Chandler, Okla., and for other purposes.

Mr. MILLER of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that this bill be stricken from the Consent Calendar.

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

There was no objection.

**EXTENDING EMERGENCY FOREIGN
MERCHANT VESSEL ACQUISITION**

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 6318) to extend emergency foreign merchant vessel acquisition and operating authority of Public Law 101, 77th Congress, and for other purposes.

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, on the basis of the recommendation of the acting chairman of the committee that had jurisdiction of this bill, I ask unanimous consent that it be passed over without prejudice.

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