a feasibility study and to accept a gift from the United States Catholic Historical Society; H.R. 2959, Joint resolution authorizing the President to proclaim March 29, 1974, as "Vietnam Veterans Day"; H.R. 1418. An act for the relief of Claude V. Alcorn and 31 others; H.R. 1920. An act to designate the portion of the control protection on Charters Creek that is within Allegheny County, Pa., as the "James G. Fulton Flood Protection Project"; H.R. 2744. An act to continue mandatory price support for tung nuts only through the 1976 crop; H.R. 3733. An act to provide for the striking of medals in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the statehood of Colorado; H.R. 6760. An act to provide for the striking of medals in commemoration of the International Exposition on Environment at Spokane, Wash., in 1974; H.R. 5674. An act to establish a Federal Financing Bank, to provide for coordinated and more efficient financing of Federal and federally assisted borrowings from the public, and for other purposes; and H.R. 6768. An act to amend chapter 33 of title 38 of the District of Columbia Code relating to usury, and for other purposes; and H.R. 10606. An act to amend the District of Columbia Minimum Wage Act so as to enable airline employees to exchange days at regular rates of compensation, and for other purposes.

On December 31, 1973:

H.R. 8449. An act to expand the national flood insurance program by substantially increasing limits of coverage and total amount of insurance authorized to be outstanding and by requiring known flood-prone communities to participate in the program, and for other purposes; and H.R. 11233. An act to provide a 7-percent increase in social security benefits beginning with March 1974 and an additional 4-percent increase beginning with June 1974, to provide increases in supplemental security income benefits, and for other purposes.

On January 2, 1974:

H.R. 3733. An act to authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to assume control of overseas war memorials erected by private persons and non-Federal and Federal funds, and to demolish such memorials in certain instances; H.R. 6529. An act to implement the shrimp fishing agreement with Brazil, and for other purposes; H.R. 9142. An act to authorize and direct the establishment, operation, and maintenance of efficient rail service in the Midwest and Northeast region of the United States, and for other purposes; H.R. 11233. An act to amend the act of March 16, 1936 (relating to the Board of Public Welfare in the District of Columbia), to provide for an improved system of adoption of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; H.R. 11372. An act to conserve energy on the Nation's highways; H.R. 11771. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, and for other purposes; and H.R. 11771. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, and for other purposes.

HOUSE BILL DISAPPROVED AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT—URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT

The President announced his disapproval of the following bill with a memorandum of disapproval as follows:

I regret that I cannot approve H.R. 10511, a bill to amend the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964. Unfortunately, this bill has evolved so as to become an anti-transit measure.

In its favor is the fact that H.R. 10511 would facilitate the use of Urban Mass Transportation monies for the purchase of buses by allowing such equipment to be used for charter services. Unfortunately, however, the bill would leave in effect the prohibition against using buses purchased with Federal-Aid Highway funds in charter activities. By creating different standards for the purchase of buses from the two programs, the bill would discourage the use of highway funds for mass transit purposes. It would thus undermine one of the central achievements of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, the provision giving greater flexibility to States and communities in meeting their transportation problems. This we cannot afford.

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. METCALF). The Chaplain, the Reverend Edward L. R. Elson, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Our Father God, who has illumined all history by the shining light of Bethlehem, we thank Thee for its message moving upon our human hearts, that makes us all children again, believing in the heralds of old, singing with the watchful shepherds, worshipping with the ancient kings.

For such a time as this may this message of "peace on earth, good will toward men" penetrate all hearts and guide all nations, that sin may be forgiven and suffering relieved by the worldwide reign of the Spirit incarnate in the Child of Bethlehem.

When our worship and festivities are over, send us all, like the shepherds and sages of old, back to the daily round different and distinct homes and different cities and different nations because we acknowledge the Lord of Life not on one day only but on all days. So let Thy light spread and Thy will be done, and the theme of the angels be the aim of all men.

Through Him who is born to be King of all life. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Hackney, one of its managers, said that the House had passed a bill (H.R. 7684) for the relief of Nicola Lomuscio, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that the House had agreed to a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 412) providing for the adjournment of the First Session of the 93d Congress, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker had affixed his signature to the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1920. An act to designate the portion of the project for flood control protection on Charters Creek that is within Allegheny County, Pa., as the "James G. Fulton Flood protection project"; H.R. 3739. An act to authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to assume control of overseas war memorials.