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REPORT ON POCKET VETO

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MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A MEMORANDUM PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REGARDING BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT LESS THAN 10 DAYS BEFORE THE ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS AND NOT SIGNED BY HIM

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DECEMBER 22, 1928.—Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE, *December 22, 1928.*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am transmitting herewith for the information of the Congress a memorandum prepared in the office of the Attorney General regarding bills presented to the President less than ten days before the adjournment of Congress and not signed by him.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
*Washington, October 10, 1928.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In re bills presented to the President less than ten days before the adjournment of Congress and not signed by him. In the case of each such bill, what was done with the engrossed copy of the bill, and what communication or memorandum was made in connection with such disposition?

Such unsigned bills are found in four places: in the custody of the Secretary of the Senate; in the custody of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress (where Presidential messages to the House of Representatives prior to the Civil War have been deposited); in the

H. R. 3308—received Mar. 2. On the bill itself is penciled "Die"

H. R. 4187—received Mar. 2.

H. R. 9313—undated. On bill itself is penciled "Die"

H. R. 6170—received Mar. 2. On bill itself is penciled "Let it die"

In the archives of the State Department is a bill passed by the 52d Congress, second session, and unsigned by President Harrison. The bill is for the relief of purchasers of timber and stone lands under the act of June 3, 1878. It is S. 2275 and is stamped "Executive Mansion Dec. 15 1892 received." On the face of the bill is the following memorandum, signed by the President:

This bill was presented to me on the 15th day of December 1892. Congress, pursuant to a concurrent resolution adopted on the 21st day of December 1892, adjourned from the 22d day of December 1892 to January 4, 1893. I have not approved the bill.

BENJ HARRISON

DECEMBER 30th 1892

The 52d Congress, second session, adjourned on March 4, 1893, the legislative day of March 3. (Cong. Rec., vol. 24, pt. 3, pp. 2551, 2618) H. R. 9956, a bill to incorporate the Washington, Burnt Mills and Sandy Spring Railway Co., was signed by the presiding officers of the two Houses of Congress on the last day of the session. (Cong. Rec., vol. 24, pt. 3, pp. 2550, 2618) President Harrison did not sign the bill. It is now at the Executive Offices.

The 53d Congress, second session, adjourned August 28, 1894. (Cong. Rec. vol. 26, pt. 8, pp. 8665, 8667) There are now at the Executive Offices the following unsigned bills of that session.

S. R. 99 is stamped as received at the Executive Mansion Aug. 24, 1894.

S. 2263 is stamped as received August 24. Attached to the bill is a typewritten recommendation on which President Cleveland made the following penciled unsigned memorandum:

I do not think this amendment is put in the best place and the renewed corporations should be in express terms made subject to all the provisions applicable to the original corporations. There should be a limit to the number of renewals to avoid perpetuity & it would be better to have the proposed renewal approved by the Chief Judge of the District or other Judicial officers rather than the Com'rs.

AUG. 25/94.

H. Res. 198—received Aug. 28.

H. R. 3005—received Aug. 20.

H. R. 7685—received Aug. 28. Attached to the bill is a typewritten memorandum on which President Cleveland wrote in pencil:

This bill was not presented to the President until after the adjournment of Congress.

H. R. 6122—Aug. 28. Attached to the bill is a typewritten memorandum on which the President wrote in pencil:

This bill was not presented to the President until after adjournment—at 3.55 P. M.

G. C.

The 53d Congress, third session, adjourned March 4, 1895. There are now at the Executive Offices, unsigned by President Cleveland, the following 18 Senate and 38 House bills: