

This Week in Washington
by
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Washington, D. C., May 9.—Monday, May 11, was an important day at the United States Capitol. The House formally voted on the "First Deficiency Appropriation Bill," which contains a provision appropriating about 1 billion 500 million to the WPA for work-relief. The Senate Finance Committee will begin executive session on the pending tax bill which is supposed to raise a little over 800 million additional revenue for the United States Treasury.

It is a rather unique legislative situation. While the Senate considers ways and means to raise about 800 million, the House considers a bill which makes a total expenditure of exactly \$2,364,229, 712.53. It should serve to indicate, in some measure at least, that there is a direct relationship between "taxes" and "expenditures." We cannot be too often reminded of this fact. Nor can we too often remind ourselves that we are spending borrowed money.

It is a foregone conclusion that the Administration will secure passage of this appropriation bill by the House without difficulty. There are good indications however that the Senate committee will revise the tax bill. That which is true with us as individuals is also true with the Government. It is always easier to spend than it is to earn. It is always easier to go into debt than it is to pay the debts.

Economists, accountants, and officials of all kinds of business, large and small, have appeared before the Senate Finance Committee in opposition to the Administration's tax plan. It has been emphatically stated by the experts appearing before the Committee that the tax as proposed would operate to the benefit of large corporations at the expense of the small business man who is endeavoring to build up reserves for expansion and improvement purposes.

As a result of this testimony committee sentiment in opposition to the bill seems to be growing. It will probably require political favors and pressure from the White House in order to prevent the committee from departing from the Administration tax plan.

The debate on the WPA appropriation was not so much over the amount to be appropriated as over the question as to how the money should be expended. Many believe that a distinct saving could be obtained by the elimination of the high Federal administrative costs in connection with work-relief funds. In the course of the debate it was repeatedly pointed out that there are thousands of employees in the many relief agencies of the Federal Government, whereas the

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state and local communities are in a position to handle projects themselves without the Federal high-salaried positions. In other words, an effort was made to have the Congress adopt a plan for the State, and local communities to administer their own projects with the Federal Government simply cooperating in providing funds.

One of my friends rather graphically described the present method of handling work-relief. He said, "First, they send some agent out of Washington to test the soil, where some house or building is to be built. A little later another agent is sent out to check the test. Then still later after several months of delay, a third agent is sent out of Washington to see if the soil which the first and second agent tested is still there." While that is something of an exaggeration, it describes the manner in which administrative costs are unnecessarily accumulated when the Federal Government itself administers work-relief projects.

The Senate passed the Navy Department Appropriation Bill yesterday. The measure now goes to conference to iron out the differences between the House and the

Senate. However, the conference report will have no effect upon the provision for the continued operation of Great Lakes Naval Training Station as the Senate accepted the House appropriation of \$250,000 for that purpose.

D.A.R. BETTER FILMS COMMITTEE REVIEW

"Every Saturday Night." Cast: June Lang, Thomas Beck, Jed Prouty, Spring Byington. Thursday, May 14. A refreshing story of an every day American family told in a delightfully humorous, but sympathetic way. The five children of the family are each highly individualized characters whose development is most interesting to watch. The production has the charm of familiar homey things. A capable cast and direction that moves along slowly but surely to a genuinely sincere and affecting climax. Family.

"The Bohemian Girl." Cast: Laurel and Hardy, Antonio Moreno, Jacquelin Wells. Friday, Saturday, May 15, 16. The original libretto operetta has undergone many changes for its screen version. There are several cleverly original comedy scenes in which Laurel and Hardy

able cast display their comedy gifts to full advantage. The careful direction goes far to make the production a completely enjoyable one. Family.

"Modern Times." Cast: Charles Chaplin, Paulette Goddard, Henry Bergman. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, May 17, 18, 19. In his characteristic costume, Charles Chaplin appears in this film as a weak, bewildered little factory worker, drifting from job to job, in and out of jail, and always unexpectedly overtaken by absurd mishaps and comic tragedies. The gags are novel and screamingly funny. The musical accompaniment shows discriminating selections and Paulette Goddard as the homeless waif with whom he combines his fortunes, gives a delicately spirited interpretation. There is no actual dramatic plot. Family.

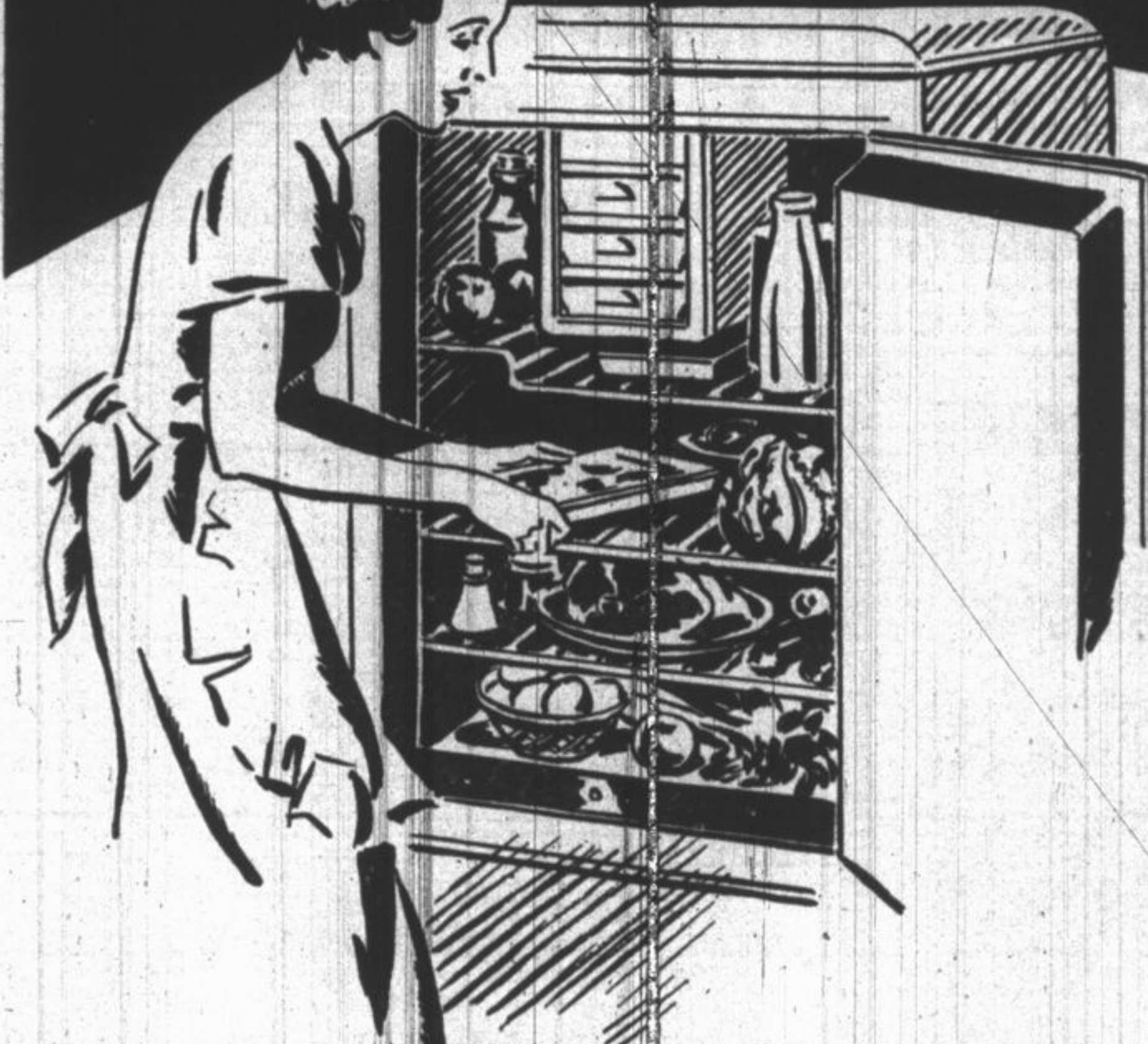
"Times Square Lady." Cast: Robert Taylor, Isabel Jewell, Helen Twelvetrees. Wednesday, Thursday, May 20, 21. Racketeers again to the front when a young girl falls heir to the gambling interests formerly controlled by her father. Matter of taste for adults.

The surest way not to fail is to determine to succeed.—Sheridan.
Nurture your mind with great thoughts; to believe in the heroic makes heroes.—Disraeli.
Those that are the loudest in their threats are the weakest in the execution of them.

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