

G. M. F.

Feb 23, 1947

For ~~the second~~ another
week, the chief ~~new~~
developments of the ~~sub~~
in Washington concern
fiscal affairs of the Government
and David Lick that, ~~both~~
was Pres. Truman's nominee
for chairman of the ~~at~~
on. Com. Mr. D. L.
in dealing with the first problem
The House passed a
resolution fixing an overall
ceiling on ^{gov.} expenditures for
the next fiscal year ~~at~~
3 1/2 B.

As I said on this program
last Sunday morning, this
is the first time Congress
has ever attempted to fix
a budget of its ann. ~~this~~

^{since money}
By the budget act of several years ago,
the president has submitted
every year a budget for the
ensuing fiscal year, which ~~year~~
runs from July 1, to June 30.
After receiving this presidential budget,
Congress has ~~as~~ been going
about the making of appropriation
helter-skelter, without determining
before hand how much
money the country should
or could afford to spend.
Moreover, Tax bills ~~never~~
nearly always passed before
Congress determined how
much ~~to~~ ~~it~~ money would
be appropriated.

Obviously, this was
not good business and
fell far short of properly
relating ~~and~~ governmental
outgo with income. So
last year Congress ~~passed~~
the leg. Re. act, having
as one of its provisions

the requirement that
at the Beginning of
each session of
Congress — an overall
estimate or ~~total~~ goal for both
expenditure and Revenue
should be made —

~~It is~~

In conformity with
this provision of law
the House has ~~now~~
passed ^{last Thursday} a resolution saying
that it intends to
allow no more than
 $31\frac{1}{2}$ B. expenditure ^{during}
the next fiscal year — the
president's budget called
for an expenditure of
 $37\frac{1}{2}$ B. — So, you see, the
house res. expresses the

purpose of cutting expenses
6 B. below the pres
Budget. ~~the~~ That was
what the democrats
& Rep fought about
during the week.

The Rep. said they
were going to cut

6 B. dollars but didn't say where.
what is now.

The democrats said
they were for economy
but ~~were~~ unwilling
to endanger ~~the~~ national
defense by blindly cutting
appropriations for the army

Repeatedly, the Democrats
asked where the money would be made - R.E.A. Veterans, ~~will~~
they ~~Rep.~~ ~~say~~ where or how.

they were not going to
cut enough to hurt. ~~Best~~
~~said~~ the democrats, ~~came back and said that~~
Gen
Cushman, G. M., Adm Nimitz and

other leaders of our armed
forces and those responsible
for our foreign policy
say ~~that~~ that it must
not be safe to make
deep cuts in our ^{armed} forces,
three young Veterans of
World War I just ~~elect~~
beginning their careers in
Congress - arose to warn
that we must not follow
the same policy ~~after~~ ^{the} now
that we followed after
World War I when our
battle ships were sunk and
cannonments rattled down - "We
must stay strong and prepared,"
one shouted.

Another said such blind
cutting was like swinging
a sharp axe in a dark room -
one might cut off his own
head. ^{Democratic leader Sam Rayburn said}
that such cuts in our armed forces would ^{cause} ^{the} ^{loss of state, too}
50, it was a party fight
and the vote followed party

lines rather closely.
But while the Rep. & Sen
fought each other in the
House, the Rep. in the
Senate were fighting
among themselves. There
a majority of even the
Rep. ~~refused~~ men
refusing to go along
with drastic cuts in
Natl Defense ~~Sens~~ Rep.
Leaders like Sen. T. & V.
said the 6. B. act would
endanger U.S. security.

After the Senate acts
it will be necessary for
a compromise to be reached —

But even then it will
only be a resolution ^{aiming} at a goal.
The real test an economy
will come when the regular
appropriation bills are passed.

Like charity, economy begins
at home. The rest will come
when members have to
vote on cutting out veteran
benefits, old age pensions, social
conservation, county agents, R & E,
mail service, federal courts, national defense.

Rep.s say they are going
to live up to the Res
and stay within the limits
of the over-all airt.

The Term said we'll
see - We think you ~~have~~
just taken a figure out
of the air and plan to use
it as an excuse to lower
taxes

And behind the whole
scrap lurks the question
of taxes - how much will
taxes be cut and for whose
benefits - But that will come
later.

You know, ~~there~~ I have been
reminded this week of an

a page - "The truth will
out". I have been reminded
of that by the fact that
leading senators have
dismissed the charges that
Mr. L. is a communist as
being wholly without
foundation. This however
has not deterred Sen
McK from persisting in
his efforts to pin the

red label on Mr. L. He goes
along making charges and
insinuating quantities ~~of~~ ^{as} ~~it~~ ^{has}

But the Senate now
has clearly indicated that
it is tired of the mess
and wants to close the
hearings after four weeks
has been given over to
irresponsible harangues.
~~Still some say~~
It is now generally

predicted that Mr. L.
will be confirmed.
Some senators, ^{who oppose} say
it will be close - That
Mr. L. will be widely
opposed - not because
he is a con - but
because he is a new
dealer.

~~Well, I am not a~~
~~particularly an advocate of Mr.~~
~~L.~~
I ~~then~~ know
to be a good, able efficient
loyal administrator. who
has done a great job
as head of the T V A -