

THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT  
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RECESS

On July 8th at 6 30 p m. both Houses of Congress completed action on a resolution which provides for a recess until September 14th unless sooner re-called by Congressional leadership Members will return home to their folks They will return to appraise conditions They will assess public reaction to Federal programs and functions They will give aid on governmental problems and then return to meet the new problems which confront the Congress from time to time While Congress as an institution has been in continuous session for 3½ years, the present 78th Congress began it's labors on January 6, 1943 Here is set out a partial summary of it's labors in that six months period.

GENERAL LEGISLATION.

(1) Provided for an increase in the public debt limit to 210 billion dollars (2) Authorized the merger of Western Union and Postal telegraph facilities (3) Enacted a modified pay-as-you-go tax bill which will bring individual taxpayers current in their tax payments and produce additional revenues (4) Provided for the recruitment of a farm labor supply (5) Authorized additions to the strength of the U S Navy (6) Enacted the War Disputes Bill to deal with strikes (7) Provided for the vocational rehabilitation of veterans of the present world war (8) Provided authority and funds for flood control aid in the mid-western states (9) Extended the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation (10) Expanded the Federal Housing program in defense areas (11) Extended the life of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act (12) Provided overtime pay for Federal employees.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Total appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1943 and extending to June 30, 1944 totalled slightly less than 115 billion dollars This includes in round figures (1) 850 million for the Department of Agriculture (2) 55 millions for the District of Columbia (3) 2621 million for the independent establishment including such agencies as the Maritime Commission, the Veterans Administration, the Tennessee Valley Authority and others (4) 1137 million for the Department of Labor and the Federal Security Agency (5) 28 million for the legislative branch (6) 12½ million for the Judicial branch of government (7) 59 billion for the War Department (8) 27½ billion for the Navy Department (9) 33½ million for the state department (10) 102½ million for the Dept. of Justice (11) 85 million for the Dept. of Commerce (12) 201 million for the Treasury Dept. (13) 899½ million for the Post Office Dept (14) 63½ million for the civil functions of the War Department (15) 6½ billion for lend-lease purposes (16) 3 billion for the war agencies such as OPA OWI BEW and others (17) 3000 million for interest on the national debt (18) the balance for war and navy deficiency items and for other purposes.

INVESTIGATIONS.

Congress also authorized and now has in progress a broad series of investigations by special committees of Congress These investigations relate to (1) Farm Security Administration (2) Federal Communications Commission (3) the Civil Service System (4) Small Business (5) War Department expenditures (6) Navy Dept Expenditures (7) Production and distribution of farm products (8) Subversive activities (9) administrative orders and regulations in the Executive branch (10) Expenditures for public housing (11) conditions in U S territories (12) a general investigation of field activities and expenditures by all government agencies.

L'ENVOI.

With this issue, the Congressional Front will also recess until September 14th To the Editors and publishers we express our gratitude and appreciation for it's publication We trust that it has proved informative and useful.

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