The Federal Budget is a sort of statistical pre-view of what the Federal Government will take in and what it will spend in the fiscal year which begins July 1st, 1943 and ends June 30th, 1944. It's a hum-dinger. That's why it deserves emphasis in streamlined form. As presented by the President, we expected to take about $35 billion dollars in taxes and customs. Deduct $1.5 billions for social security and victory tax refunds and it leaves $33 billions with which to work. On war we will spend $97 billion. One year's interest on what we already owe will be $3 billion. Running expenses for the government household will be another $4 billion. That makes $104 billion. Now deduct the $33 billion we shall have in receipts and it means that we shall be short about $71 billion. This $71 billion we can borrow by issuing bonds or by adding on higher taxes. If 16 additional billions are obtained in taxes, the deficit will still be $55 billion. Truly, those are breath-taking totals.

Soldiers and Sailors

Who said that our soldiers, sailors and marines don't go in for art and culture? Well, look at this. The National Gallery of Art in Washington is probably the greatest storehouse of art in the western hemisphere. Masterpieces of all ages and all lands are there. In the 1st year after it's opening, 2,000,000 persons visited the Gallery. A recent check-up shows that 23% of all the visitors are in uniform. That means that 5,000 men in the armed services visit the Gallery every week.

One Who Knows

Hon. Walter H. Hudd, newly elected Member of Congress from Minnesota should know. Born in 1898, he enlisted in the U. S. Army during the first World War and later graduated as a doctor of Medicine from the University of Nebraska. For six years, beginning in 1925, he served as a medical missionary and hospital superintendent in China and an additional four years from 1934 to 1938. In 1939 and 1940, he toured the United States in an effort to arouse the people to the Japanese menace and to secure the imposition of an embargo on shipments of war materials to Japan. Representative Judd should be well of information on Oriental matters.

Soldiers and Liquor

Much has been said and written concerning the use of liquor by men in the armed forces. In some instances there have been lurid accounts of intemperance and abuses. It is now possible for comfort of fathers and mothers and for the people generally to set forth a few incontroverted figures which will throw light on this matter. If there are undue and excessive drinking among the soldiers, that fact would be reflected in the court-martial records of the Army. It is, therefore, interesting to contrast courts-martial for the last year of prohibition in 1932 with Army conduct in 1941 as measured by the court-martial record. In 1932 there were 103 summary courts-martial per 1,000 men as compared with 31 in 1941. There were 41 special courts-martial per 1,000 men in 1932 as compared with 13 in 1941. Assuming that court-martial offenses are increased as a result of the abuses of liquor, the record of the present army is genuinely amazing as compared with 1932. Secondly, compare a survey made of two combat divisions. It was found that 57 of 100 soldiers drank neither beer nor liquor, 34 indulged in beer and 9 took an occasional drink of liquor. Now consider a survey made of two units of the Army Air Forces. In this survey it was found that 58 out of every 100 men touched neither beer nor liquor, 31 drank beer occasionally and 11 took an occasional drink of liquor. These figures leave little doubt concerning the temperateness of the young men who constitute the armed services of the country today. Still another factor can be used in measuring indulgence in liquor. In 1917 there were 1,332 admissions to the hospital per every 1,000 men in the course of the year. This may appear to be an impossible figure but it is accounted for by the fact that in the course of the year the same soldier may have been admitted for hospital treatment for one chronic malady or injuries. In August 1942 this number had dropped to 761 hospital admissions per 1,000 men. Finally let us consider the death rate which is a rate exclusive of war casualties. In 1917 the death rate in the Army was 3.35 per 1,000 men. In 1942 it was 1.39 per 1,000 men. Judging from the death rate, the record of hospital admissions, the surveys of various Army and Air Force units and the number of court-martial, the conclusion is that the Army of the United States is today the healthiest and most temperate Army in the history of the republic.