

REDUCTION OF NONESSENTIAL FEDERAL EXPENDITURES

FEBRUARY 11, 1943.

Report to: The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

In accordance with title 6 of the Revenue Act of 1941, Public Law No. 250, Seventy-seventh Congress, an additional report herewith is presented by the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 38, introduced by Senators Vandenberg and Byrd, was adopted by the Senate. This resolution is as follows:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures be directed to investigate the existing methods of all departments and bureaus in respect to the manner and form of questionnaires, reports, and all other methods of inquiry to which citizens and/or corporations are required to respond in connection with all phases of the war effort: and be it further

Resolved, That the committee be directed to report any legislative recommendations which would either eliminate or simplify or concentrate these processes to the end that citizens and/or corporations shall be relieved of any needless irritation, labor, or expense in this connection and that the war effort shall be relieved of any needless obstacles or complications and that the Federal pay rolls shall be relieved of any needless personnel.

In accordance with the mandate contained in this resolution, the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures made an investigation of the questionnaires and reports required from the public by the different agencies of Government.

The committee conducted public hearings and heard all the witnesses who desired to testify.

The committee required each agency of the Government to submit to the committee a complete list and a sample of all questionnaires sent out by the various agencies of the Government during the period from July 1, 1941, to December 1, 1942.

The responses made by the agencies show that a total of 7,025 separate and distinct Government reports and questionnaires were required by 48 agencies to be answered by the public.

This figure is exclusive of the reports requested by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Farm Credit Administration, and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, this information not having been furnished the committee.

This number, also, does not include a large number of letters asking for specific information and only includes the printed forms.

The committee has obtained sample copies of each of the questionnaires and reports, but has not been able to secure from the different agencies exact information as to the number of each report distributed,