

### King in Move To Plug Tax Law Loopholes

In a move aimed at preventing the loss of several million tax dollars each year, Rep. Cecil R. King has called upon Congress to plug a loophole in the income tax law which will crack down on movie stars and others who avoid payment of federal income taxes by taking foreign jobs and remaining out of the United States for 17 of 18 consecutive months.

Congressman King introduced a bill in the House to repeal a section of the Internal Revenue Code which excludes from gross income the amounts earned outside the United States by U.S. citizens and urged Congress to "act quickly to straighten out an inequitable situation which is depriving our Government of substantial revenue and doing harm to the domestic motion picture industry."

The present provisions of the income tax law exempts from taxes the income earned by American workers in a period which they spend 17 of 18 consecutive months outside the United States.

#### USED BY STARS

King told Congress that this provision "is being used by movie personalities and others for the purpose of avoiding payment of American income taxes."

"This certainly is not a course of conduct as would emphasize their patriotism to America," he added.

The veteran California Congressman said he had been advised that many persons will not accept employment for motion picture production in the United States.

"They are using their popularity with the American public to bring pressure on American producers by refusing to appear in a picture unless arrangements can be made to film the picture outside the United States."

#### EXAMPLES CITED

Congressman King cited the following examples to show how some movie personalities are presently dodging federal income taxes.

"One of our prominent actors recently completed a picture in Mexico. For appearing in this picture, which took approximately six weeks, he will receive a salary of \$275,000. Unless this act is amended and presuming that the actor remains outside the United States for the 17 months required, this salary along with any other which he earns in this period, will be tax free.

**\$600,000—TAX FREE**  
"Another actor is completing a sojourn of 18 months in England, France and other European countries. During this period he has earned some \$600,000, all of which will be tax free.

"Certainly if Congress is going to permit this sort of thing, the individual can hardly be blamed for yielding to such a strong and lucrative temptation. We must act to remove this temptation provided by this loophole in the law. The longer we delay, the more persons will be tempted."

King pointed out that the loss in revenue to the treasury was only one of the evils permitted by the loophole.

#### GOVERNMENT LOSSES

"As production goes abroad, the American production of motion pictures declines. American production workers lose their jobs and the government not only loses the revenue from the principals but from these additional Americans who are thus deprived of their normal employment."

King said the American motion picture industry is going through a serious period of readjustment brought about by technical changes in the amusement industry and that this tax problem has created an additional and completely unnecessary burden which should be immediately removed by Congress.

The King bill, designated as H. R. 4544, has been sent to the House Ways and Means Committee, of which Congressman King is a ranking member.

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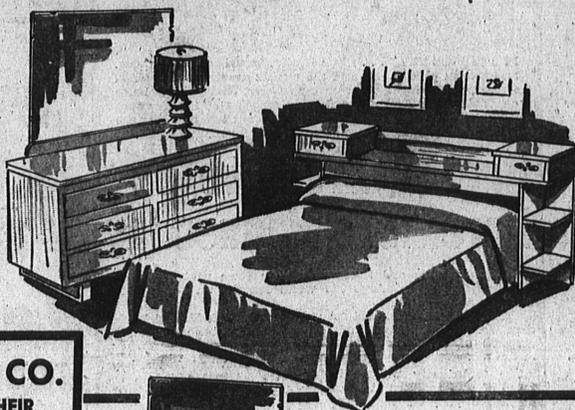
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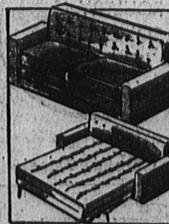
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