Your Income Tax ABC's

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a series of stories explaining who has to do what about his income taxes.)

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Generally, taxpayers are divided into two classes: those who make under or over $5,000.

Those who made less than $5,000 in 1945 won't have to figure their tax. They'll use Form W-2 (the withholding receipt) or the 1040 short-form.

Those who made $5,000 or over will have to use the 1040 long-form and do their own figuring.

Here's an explanation of the forms and who can use them:

Take Form W-2 first:

This is the receipt, about the size of a bank-check, which a boss gives a worker to show the money earned in 1945 and the tax withheld from his wages or salary.

To use it:

1. Your gross income for the year must be under $5,000.
2. If you had income in addition to your wages, that income must not have been more than $100, and the total income must be under $5,000.
3. Your income must have been derived from wages, salary, dividends or interest.

Answer a few simple questions on the Form W-2 receipt, send it to your internal revenue collector, and be sure you don't send any money with it.

Now take the 1040 short-form:

Using 1040 as a short-form, you generally deal only with the first page.

There you write some facts and figures about yourself—such as name, number of dependents—and the wages, salary or other income you had in 1945. The short-form can be used by anyone with income under $5,000 from any source.

People using Form W-2 or the 1040 short form don't list deductions, such as for medical expenses or union dues. The reason: For people using those forms a deduction of 10 per cent already has been figured out in the table—used with Form W-2 or the 1040 short-form — which shows how much tax they owe.

Don't use Form W-2 or the 1040 short-form if you have deductions of more than 10 per cent. Use the 1040 long-form. There you'll have to itemize the deductions but you'll get credit for them.

Now take the 1040 long-form:

You have to use this and figure your own tax if your income was $5,000 or over, whether from wages or any other source. This long form is the only one on which you have to figure your own tax. The table won't help.

If you have to use this form, take a flat minimum deduction of $500 for expenses, even though those expenses were far less than $500. You take that minimum deduction whether your income was $5,000 or $50,000.

And you don't have to itemize your deductions when you claim that flat $500. Just take $500 of your income.

If your actual expenses were more than $500, you can claim as much as those expenses were.

Special Attention Given Alaskan Plans

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman today set up a special cabinet subcommittee to devise a program for the extensive development of Alaska.

The White House said that Interior Secretary Krug, Commerce Secretary Wallace and Agriculture Secretary Anderson will cooperate in the endeavor.

The development of Alaska has been the subject of frequent White House discussion. Alaskan Governor Ernest Gruening has called on the President twice in recent days.

The governor's view is that highways and other facilities, including agricultural development, should be pushed to attract war veterans from the United States into that territory.

AN ACCIDENT, MEN?

RIVERSIDE, Calif.—(AP)—Note to men who complain about women drivers: The Army announced release of four of its women drivers of heavy duty military trucks at March Field. Each of the women, said the army, had exceeded 300,000 miles without an accident.

TREATY REPORTED

LONDON —(AP)— The Moscow radio said a treaty of friendship and mutual aid was signed today between the Soviet Union and the Mongolian Peoples Republic (Outer Mongolia).

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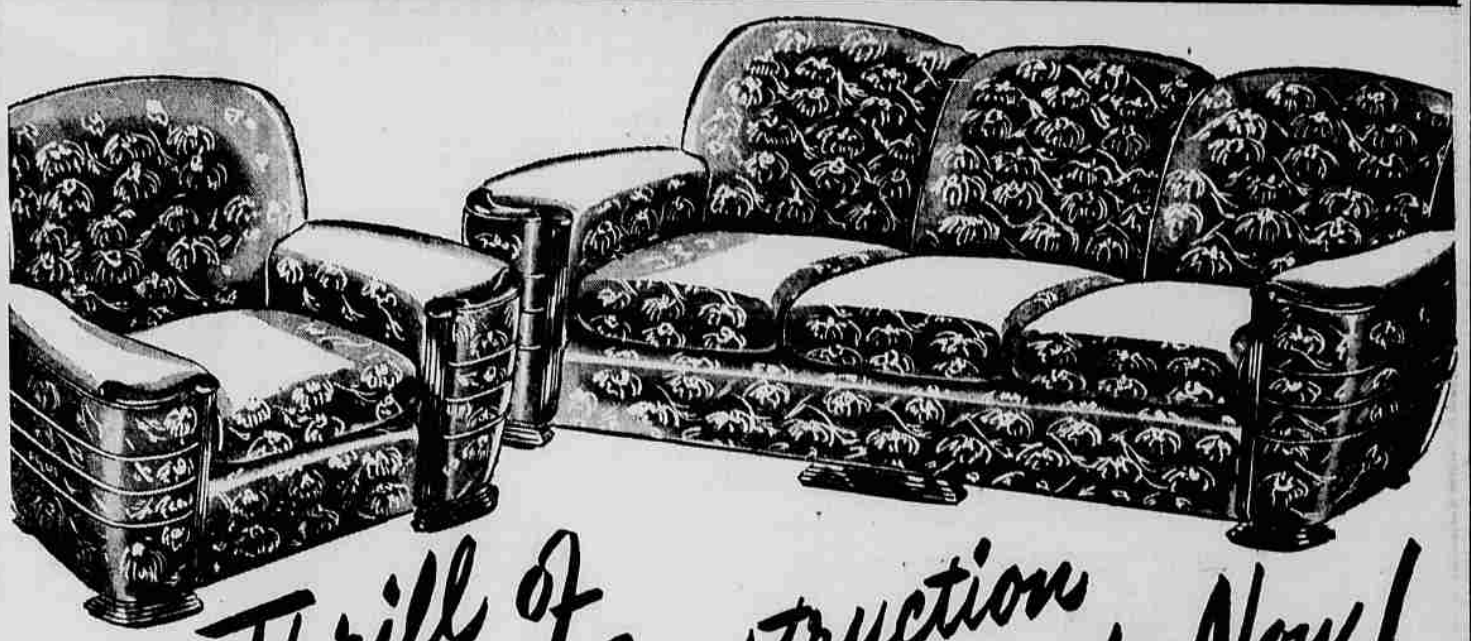

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