

# OPA To Slacken Reins On Restaurant Prices

WASHINGTON, June 13 (AP) OPA opened the way today for higher restaurant prices.

But in doing so, the agency followed only in part a recommendation of the senate banking committee, which voted to wipe out ceilings on meals made up of foods on which there are no price controls.

OPA issued an order which simply allows new menu prices to reflect the full amount of any higher costs stemming from the removal of price ceilings on food items.

The order is effective immediately, but it will have little effect on restaurant prices right away. The reason is that there are not many food items exempt from price control at this time.

But OPA officials said the new regulation means the cost of dining out probably will go up sharply if ceilings are stripped from meat, poultry, eggs and dairy products. The senate committee has recommended removal of these controls July 1. A decision by the full senate is expected by nightfall.

How much the cost of major food items might go up if ceilings were removed has been the subject of much controversy. Stabilization Director Chester Bowles has estimated that meat prices would jump 40 to 50 per cent.

At present only a few food items come within the scope of the revised regulation. Ceilings on lobsters and most kinds of fish have been removed, for example. This means menu prices may be based on the cost of these items.

An OPA official who withheld use of his name said the new order provides "the only just way" of handling restaurant prices and at the same time "maintaining any semblance of control."

Commenting on this and other changes in the price regulation covering public eating places, the National Restaurant Association said in a statement that the revision "will not mean increased menu prices."

However, a spokesman for the organization told a reporter later that this view was based on present circumstances and did not take into consideration the

## Joins Firm



Al Eighmy, who has joined Dimbat Motors as general manager, according to George Dimbat, owner of the firm. Eighmy has been district service manager for the Chrysler corporation for the past two years with headquarters in Portland, and had extensive experience in the automotive field as parts manager, salesman and service manager before joining the Chrysler organization. During the war he was with the air technical training command and training air force personnel in B29 maintenance.

possibility that ceilings may be removed on major foods.

The restaurant changes went into effect as government economists estimated that housewives' costs for major foods have climbed in recent weeks at the rate of \$485,000,000 a year.

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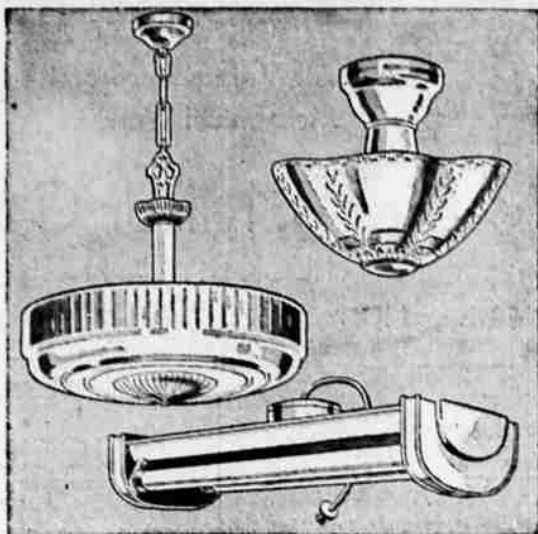
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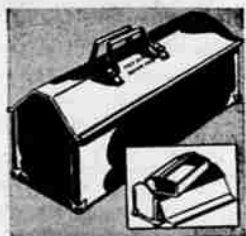
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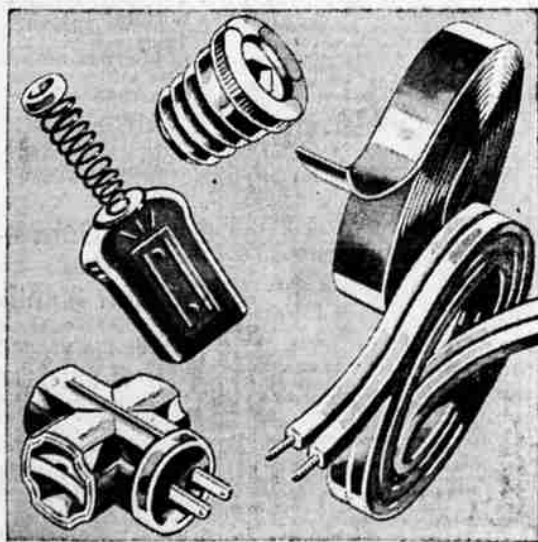
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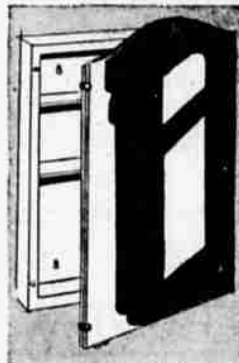
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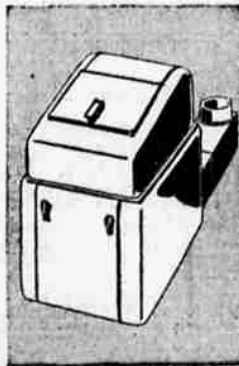
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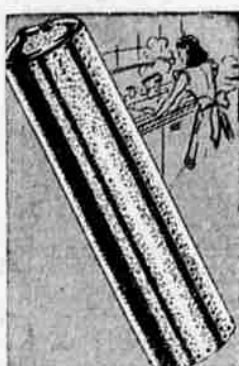
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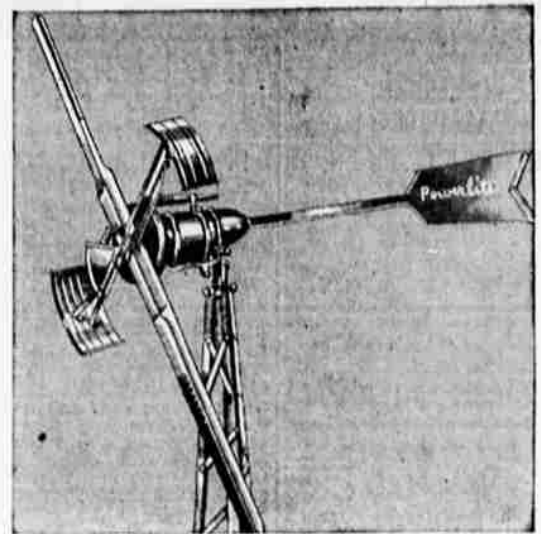
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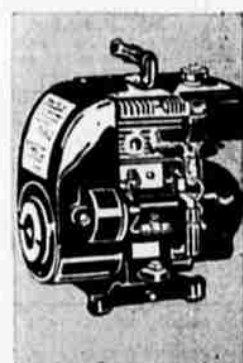
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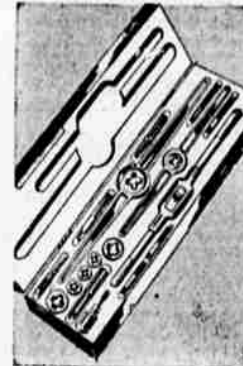
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