

This Week IN WASHINGTON

ACTIVITY GROWS

WASHINGTON — Practically every statement made by the President these days is the signal for a burst of new activity on the part of some group of government workers. This week the Office of Production Management and the house committee in charge of planning a tax program are striving to formulate plans to conform with the views on their job as recently expressed by Mr. Roosevelt.

To the OPM the President said,

in effect: You have been doing a good job but it isn't enough. You must comb the country for idle machines and see that all of them are put to work. You must also plan to get all machines working 24 hours a day, seven days a week, regardless of the cost of achieving this goal.

The OPM, under a terrific strain already, is now working feverishly to reach the three objectives outlined by the President:

1. To get a pool of all useful or potential machine tools whether in large or medium-sized factories or in a small garage in Hyde Park, N. Y.
2. To use them where they are or move them where they can be employed.
3. To see if it is not possible to get the men to man them on a 168-hour-a-week basis with time out only for necessary repairs to the machines.

Defense spending in April totaled \$761,001,888, which was a new high, but which is not considered fast enough spending to keep our defense production on schedule. By July it is expected that expenditures and production will be doubled.

'No Rich Richer.'

To the committee planning taxes the President said: "I hope your committee, with the help of the treasury, will formulate a tax bill which will convince the country that a national defense program intended to protect our democracy is not going to make the rich richer and the poor poorer."

It is expected from now on that each tax proposal will be considered in the light of that statement by the President. This would stop any consideration of tax on necessities, and would probably place the brunt of revenue on middle and high incomes, with the poor man still exempt from income tax, or subject to only a very small tax.

Although the President makes clear, understandable statements on what he wants done about production, taxes and defense measures, his statements on war policy are subject to varying interpretations. Congressmen and government officials are still debating just what was behind his statement, in his recent talk dedicating Woodrow Wilson's birthplace when he spoke of our simple faith in the freedom of democracy in the world and said: "It is the kind of faith for which we have fought before, for the existence of which we are ever ready to fight again."

Various interpretations have been put on that statement, but the general opinion here is that it was made to get the present reaction of the people toward war — just another of the trial balloons tossed out by both the President and his cabinet members in recent weeks.

Seeks Public Opinion

It is believed here that the President wants to convey ships to Britain and that he favors other steps which might get us closer to war, but he doesn't want to overstep public opinion in taking the initiative in any move of this kind. He is therefore believed to be throwing out statements for public discussion in order to keep close tabs on the shifts of public opinion.

Talk of amendments to the se-

lective service act has subsided and it is expected now that new regulations, which can be put through without congressional action, will come first. The most outstanding change will be to defer indefinitely the conscription of men over 26 years old.

Studies of the men already inducted show that less than 10 percent are over 30 years of age. Because the older men have family ties, are not in as good physical condition, and are found by officers to be more difficult to train, most army leaders would prefer to confine the training, for the present, to young men who are unmarried.

Reduce Air Corps Requirements. Meanwhile, the high requirements for acceptance in the air corps, which have seriously limited the number eligible for aviation, have been revised by the army. The former requirement of a high school education has now been changed to requiring only a grammar school education provided the applicants can pass an intelligence test indicating that they have high native intelligence.

There is more and more private talk here hinting at the fact that the President may decide to issue a declaration of national emergency. Officials close to the President feel that the people of the country, in general, are not awake to the seriousness of the present situation and that some drastic action needs to be taken to arouse them. Declaration of a national emergency, which would give the President new powers, would be expected to achieve this aim.

HOME EXTENSION UNIT DISCUSS NEW PLANS

The home economics extension program from July, 1941 to July, 1942, was planned on Tuesday, May 13, when representatives from 17 extension units and 8 study clubs met to decide on the program of work. Mrs. Azalea Sager, state home demonstration leader, led the discussion by discussing new developments in the state and national program of work. Mrs. C. J. Humphrey, chairman of the county committee, presided during the meeting and discussed how the suggestions of the farm, home and rural life committees of the Outlook Conference could be accomplished in the extension program. Miss Leach, home demonstration agent summarized the year's work. Because of the resignation of Mrs. Maris, extension specialist in parent education, the study club project will be curtailed until a new specialist is available.

It was suggested that a fall meeting of all study club leaders

be held to develop their program. Some of the study clubs plan to participate in extension unit activities instead of all parent education study. It was the desire of both extension units and study clubs to have discussions on "Citizenship Responsibility in a Democracy." They were of the opinion that all people would profit by a thoughtful consideration of their responsibilities and the privileges of the American Way of life. In the field of foods and nutrition one meeting will be held on "Meals for Busy Days," or "Adequate Meals for all," this lesson to be relayed to five other families by each member receiving the lesson in a method known as the neighborhood plan.

Details of this plan will be developed in the fall. Also in the foods and nutrition program there will be two meetings on "Let's Have Fewer Colds." In the field of clothing and textiles it was decided to hold one meeting on the "Selection and Care of Foundation Garments" and one meeting on "What is New in Textiles." In the field of home furnishings two meetings were planned on "Kitchen Improvement." An extra meeting was to be held on the "Development of a Filing System for Extension and Recipe Materials."

In planning the home economics extension program time was allotted for administrative work such as home interest conference, the annual conference, annual report, county and state fairs, 4-H Club summer school, P. T. A. activities, and also time was allotted for joint projects in cooperation with the county agent which includes meetings and plans on the family vegetable garden and home beautification of the farmstead. The agent will also cooperate in national programs such as the cotton mattress program, school lunch project, and cooking schools for the use of surplus foods of the stamp plan. In the recreational program the club favored a homemakers' vacation camp, a folk dance festival, and a recreation county council. Plans were suggested for a fall rally day of all extension cooperators and an officers' training day. District meetings were requested on food preservation and the cooking of frozen foods.

The program as planned by the group seems very fundamental and thorough while for the needs of Clackamas County. Leaders were enthusiastic over the outlook for next year. The study clubs that were represented were as follows:

Concord, Gladstone, Gladstone Younger Mothers, Oswego, Sun. set, Welches, West Linn, and Willamette.

The extension units represented were: Brightwood, Concord, Cottrell, Damascus, Clarkes, Dodge, Elliott Prairie, Fernwood, Greenwood, Ladd Hill, Meridian, Milk Creek, Oak Grove, Park Place, Redland, Stafford, and Wilsonville.

At the business session of the group Mrs. Howard Schutz of the Greenwood extension unit, and Mrs. George Ten Eyck of the Firwood Extension Unit, were elected to the county committee for three year terms. Anyone wishing any further information about the extension program for the coming year is urged to contact Miss M. Irene Leach, home demonstration agent, at the Post Office Building.

TWO BOUND OVER TO GRAND JURY

Melvin Causley McCreary and Edward Wayne Walzak, who were arrested May 7 for shooting the Alder Creek Tavern sign, were arraigned Saturday and bound over to the grand jury with bail set at \$500 each, for which they have posted bond.

KNIFER FREED

L. C. Bradford of the Dodge Park district, accused of assaulting Orville Eblen with a pocket knife, was freed by the Clackamas county grand jury last week.

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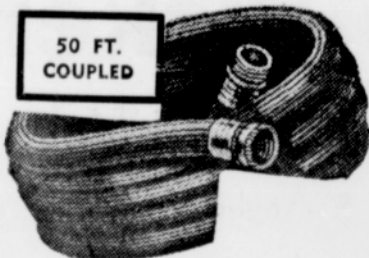
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