

Extension Plans Center on Main Defense Efforts

"The work of the federal cooperative service is itself being conducted under a 'priorities system' these days," said W. L. Teutsch assistant director of extension at Oregon state college upon his return from the recent meeting of the land grant college association in Chicago. "First on the priorities list is cooperation in the various national defense efforts and second is planning for the post-war adjustments."

Teutsch pointed out that extension service work in relation to national defense includes cooperation with the U. S. agricultural defense boards in increasing food for defense furthering the national campaign for better nutrition, cooperating with other agencies in such things as machinery repairs and collection of scrap iron and in a program for rural youth.

The current youth program involving 4-H clubs is emphasizing all of the previously mentioned activities plus emphasis on expansion of farm

gardens and on the training of club members in the ideals and methods of the democratic way of life.

Planning for the post-war period will be carried on in Oregon as in the past thru the active work of county land use and agricultural program planning committees. Already some preliminary work of this nature was carried on last spring when a report was formulated on adjusting Oregon agriculture to meet the impacts of war and national defense, Teutsch continued.

This pattern is being followed more or less thruout the country according to reports made at the land grant association meeting. At those meetings questions of national defense and post-war planning occupied almost the entire program Teutsch said.

Secretary of agriculture Wickard has recently issued a call to all USDA agencies to assist immediately in this post-war planning aimed at averting another agricultural depression such as hit the industry in the early twenties. Planning for this kind

of future is a part of the defense effort itself according to Secretary Wickard.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Irrespective of what steps are taken to curb strikes in defense industries it seems a virtual certainty that it will be a long time before the labor problem is solved. There is too much at stake, too much to be gained to make a quick and easy settlement possible. The big labor leaders are driving for power now and their opposition is digging in for a long campaign. The obvious goal of labor is the 100 percent closed shop. Industry in general is absolutely opposed to that and so according to recent Presidential statements is the government. So far as the public is concerned a late Gallup poll indicated that the closed shop is favored by one person out of six.

A great many people think that the wisest present strategy would be to delay matters until the emergency is over. That for instance, is the point of view of Wendell Willkie, who said that no effort to effect either the open shop or the closed shop should be taken now, that instead an attempt should be made to freeze matters as they stand at present. One pending congressional bill has that as its objective. But there is room for doubt that such a policy of relative inaction is workable today. The temper of Congress, of the people and of the labor leaders may make a real showdown inevitable before long.

In the meantime there is a growing feeling that the stand taken by labor is rapidly becoming untenable. The closed shop idea carried to its inevitable conclusion means a labor monopoly. A handful of labor leaders could stop the production of the entire nation at a moments notice. They would, for example be immensely more powerful than the President. The head of the government even in these days of crisis can be checked by Congress and the Courts and the Constitution itself puts definite limits upon his freedom is responsible to no one save their members. And in equal practice the members of major unions often have absolutely nothing to say about policy and union management.

Many friends of labor as a result are beginning to have qualms. In a recent column Dorothy Thompson, who always has been pro-labor said, "The closed shop, gives the union organization an immense club over the workers, for they cannot express their opposition to union policy or officials either by resigning from the union or withholding their dues. They cannot strike against the union. And once the closed shop has been instituted it is almost impossible to revoke. There can be no groups in this country that are above the law and above the community. The very fact of the growing power of the unions demands that they accept social disciplines."

"Social disciplines" of course is simply one way of saying government regulation of the unions. That is likely to come in the long run. The government in that case would be the dominant factor in labor-industrial relations. It would protect the worker against exploitation by his employ-

er on the one hand and it would protect the employer against union racketeering on the other. But it is obvious that many a moon must pass before this goal can be obtained. And the immediate question is what can be done to keep production going.

The President, perhaps, has the right formula. There is no doubt that he forced Mr. Lewis to accept arbitration and call off the captive coal mine strike because it was clear that public opinion was overwhelmingly behind him. At a press conference he said that public opinion would prove the deciding factor. Unless we throw the Constitution overboard, abolish the courts and adopt a Hitler-like forced labor system we can't make a man work if he doesn't want to and by the same token a man should not be prevented from working if he wishes to. Troops can be ordered to break strikes, but troops can't run the machines and get the products out. Public opinion on the other hand can certainly make labor leaders think twice before defying the government, ignoring the findings of unprejudiced boards of arbitration and calling strikes that imperil defense.

There is much criticism of the failure of the government, executive and Congress alike, to take a really definite stand. The signs indicate that the executive and Congress are now taking heed of this criticism. Congress knows that defense strikes must be stopped. And the people with this country facing all out war on two oceans want planes and ships and tanks and guns. The labor leaders may have bitten off more than they can chew.

Oregon 4-H Club Members Take 4 National Awards

Oregon 4-H club members who entered the various nation wide contests this year were successful in winning four college scholarships of \$200 each in the judging result of which were announced at the national 4-H club congress in Chicago. In addition to these several others won trips to the congress.

The four who won places among the coveted blue award groups in the various contests were Hazel Buckingham Monroe, who won the scholarship in the food preparation contest sponsored by Serval, Inc.; Miss Lorraine Filliger of Astoria who won in the girls record contest sponsored by Montgomery, Ward and company; Robert H. King, Moro, whose scholarship was won in the meat animal contest sponsored by Thos. E. Wilson; and Miss Louise Williams, Portland, who was among the top winners in the national canning contest sponsored by the Kerr Glass Mfg. company corporations.

Miss Buckingham has been in club work in Benton county for ten years during which she completed 47 different projects mostly in food preparation and homemaking. She is also the 1941 state champion 4-H club news writer.

Miss Filliger a sister of Mary Filliger who won the same prize a year ago has an outstanding club record extending over eight years. She also completed 47 projects covering 13 different subjects. She was grand champion in the state style review this year and had previously won a \$100 Carl Raymond Gray scholarship.

Kings has been an outstanding club member for 11 years during which he has specialized mostly in livestock projects.



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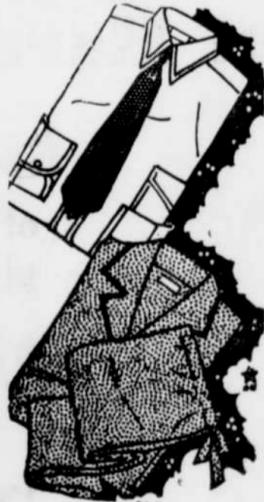
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