

Special White House Commission Seen As Necessary to Spur Americans On

By LOUIS CASSELS
UPI Correspondent

Washington—President Eisenhower believes that Americans need something besides Communist competition to spur them on. His strong conviction that the nation requires new incentives may result soon in the appointment of a special White House Commission.

The commission would be composed of distinguished Americans from every field of useful activity—educators, scientists, union leaders, corporation executives, clergymen, bankers, doctors, farmers and so on. Its job would be to establish National Goals—targets of peaceful achievement for the American people to shoot at during the next five or ten years.

This may sound like an echo of the "five-year plans" so dear to the hearts of Communist bureaucrats. But there would be a profoundly significant difference. The Communist plans are dictated from the top by political leaders. America's National Goals would be set by private citizens, acting as the representatives of a free people.

Great Importance
Eisenhower attaches great importance to this distinction.

Although he first broached the idea of a commission in his State of the Union message to Congress last Jan. 9, he has held up its actual appointment for more than eight months.

The delay has been caused by his determination not to spend one cent of government money on the project. He believes it should be entirely financed by private funds. Several of the big philanthropic foundations have indicated a willingness to underwrite the commission's expenses, but the details of financing are still being worked out.

When that hurdle is cleared, the President is ready to name the members of the commission. He has already picked, from a list of thousands of possibilities, a broadly representative group of men and women who will be asked to serve.

Prodigious Feats
The President's thinking about the project runs along these lines:

The American people have proved repeatedly that they can achieve prodigious feats in wartime, when they are united by a common peril and spurred on by the knowledge that their homes and freedoms are at stake.

But in peacetime, Americans let down. They become complacent about their high living standards and take freedoms for granted. Teamwork gives way to disunity, sacrifice is succeeded by individual and group selfishness. Difficulties which would be an inspiring challenge in wartime become insurmountable obstacles to peacetime progress. Instead of dreaming and working for a better world, Americans start thinking of a shorter work week, a longer vacation, an easier life all around.

Tendencies Offset
The cold war with Russia, and the necessity of keeping up in the nuclear-missile race, have offset this tendency to some degree. But these stimuli are clearly not enough. The public's response to the cold war alternates erratically between near-hysteria when the Russians beat us into space and national relaxation when we finally get one of our own rockets off the pad.

What America really needs is what a famous philosopher called "the moral equivalent of war"—positive, constructive goals that will call forth in peacetime the same kind of all-out effort that the nation expends so readily in a hot war.

In his State of the Union message, Eisenhower put it this way:

"If progress is to be steady, we must have long term guides extending far ahead, certainly five, possibly even ten years. They must be goals that stand high, and so inspire every citizen to climb always toward mounting levels of moral, intellectual and material strength. Every advance toward them must stir pride in individual and national achievements."

The President believes that national goals should be established in each major field of public activity. Here are a few examples of the kind of problems that would be referred to the commission:

Education—U. S. schools are locally controlled and locally financed. They vary in quality from very good to very bad, and there is no accepted national standard of what a school ought to be. Teachers' pay ranges from adequate to disgraceful, academic requirements from rugged to ludicrous. If there were clearly defined national goals of educational excellence, the citizens of each community could theoretically measure their schools against this yardstick, and act accordingly.

Living Standards—Although many Americans are enjoying relative prosperity, inflation remains a constant threat to real incomes. And there are still grim pockets of poverty in this "land of plenty." The living standards that prevail among migrant farm workers and on some Indian reservations, for example, are as low as any in Asia or Africa. Chronic unemployment persists in many one-industry communities. Millions of aged people are pinching pennies because they have been forced by early-retirement customs into a leisure they cannot afford to enjoy.

Productivity—To support and raise living standards for all groups of Americans, and at the same time meet mounting demands for public expenditure on armaments, highways, schools and hospitals, the U. S. economy must steadily expand its productivity. What output of goods and services will be needed ten years hence, when the population will reach 190,000,000? What public and private measures are indicated to achieve this expansion?

Health—Americans are already spending millions on medical research and hundreds of millions on medical care. But there are many national health problems whose surface has barely been scratched. More and better facilities are urgently needed, for example, in the field of mental illness. Alcoholism, with 5,000,000 victims, is a still-spreading blight about which little is being done.

Civil Rights—What can and should America accomplish during the next ten years toward the elimination of racial discrimination? What steps are needed to safeguard traditional American liberties—and to arouse greater public awareness of how precious they are, and how easily they can be eroded unless vigilantly protected?

The foregoing list merely suggests some of the areas of national concern that probably would attract the commission's attention. There doubtless would be many others.

Once the national goals are established, Eisenhower believes, public opinion will compel progress toward them. The very fact that the goals are voluntary—set by private citizens, with no hint of government compulsion—will make them, in the President's opinion, far more acceptable to the American people than any official "five-year plan" drawn up in Washington.

Firefighter's Body Is Found

Chiloquin—(UPI)—The body of a 32-year-old bulldozer operator missing since Thursday in an 8,600-acre forest fire north of here was found in a burned area Saturday afternoon.

The victim was Clifford E. Dav., of Chiloquin.

Oregon state highway department Chiloquin manager Roger Wright said the body was found about one-half mile northeast of where Dav abandoned the tractor Thursday when flames swept behind him, cutting off escape. Dav was with another firefighter when they were encircled by the flames. The companion, Ben Foster, forest service employee from Klamath Falls, made his way out of the trap after Dav leaped from the bulldozer and went another way. Foster was uninjured.

A search headed by Klamath county sheriff Murray Birtton was launched Friday and resumed Saturday for the missing Dav. Bloodhounds and prisoners from the county jail were deployed in the hunt.

The fire broke out Thursday when sparks from the Chiloquin city dump spread to a nearby stand of trees. Hundreds of firefighters continued to battle the blaze Saturday afternoon.

South Dakota, Utah, Alaska and California account for 74 per cent of the total domestic production of gold in the U. S.

Buffalo, N. Y. (UPI)—Police had a very helpful clue in a recent case involving a two-car hit-and-run accident. The sought-after auto left its front license plate at the scene.

Sharks have one to four rows of teeth in actual use and another two to seven rows in reserve. If one tooth is lost, a reserve takes its place in less than a week.

It is estimated that at least five or ten out of every 100 Americans suffer an allergic reaction from penicillin, a drug second only to aspirin in daily use.

New York (UPI)—Industrialization has pushed up Australia's gross national product from \$4.9 billion 10 years ago to \$13 billion in 1958, according to Newsweek magazine.

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PROSPECT 'Play School' Planned

By FRANCES RING

Prospect A meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Ray Maurer on Red Bluff rd., Wednesday, Sept. 9, to discuss the possibility of a kindergarten type "play school" for Prospect 4 and 5-year-olds.

Mrs. Carol Drake, wife of the present music teacher, would be in charge of the school. It would be a non-profit venture and not affiliated with the Prospect schools. The purpose of the school would be to help the children prepare for school by getting along with a group, sitting still for longer periods of time, and learning to follow simple directions.

A charge of 25 cents per child per day would go to pay for milk and supplies to be used in the school.

Women present at the meeting were Mrs. Sam Beck, Mrs. Howard Bishop, Mrs. Eugene Burrill, Mrs. Ralph Parten, Mrs. Bob Owens, Mrs. George Ring Jr., and the hostess, Mrs. Ray Maurer.

The Bloodmobile will be at the Prospect Community hall Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 2 until 6 p.m. Donors are urgently needed as the quota for this year is high. Anyone caring to donate may call Mrs. Mel Rochester at UNION 9-2071.

Prospect Community store will be open Monday, Sept. 14, at the Community hall. Donations will be accepted there.

Dee Neville and family of Los Angeles visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Neville recently. From there, they continued on their trip to Utah. Dee expected to fly to Minneapolis on a business trip before returning to Los Angeles with his family.

Clarence Neville, who has been attending college at Corvallis, visited at home recently. He left Thursday for Hood River, where he will teach shop-work at W Y's East High school.

More Water For TID Seen

Talent—Water for additional land will be available during the 1961 irrigation season, Walter Hoffbuhr, manager of Talent irrigation district, has announced.

The increased amount of water is the result of near-completion of the Talent reclamation project.

Petitions for inclusion of new lands must be filed, processed and accepted not later than the spring of 1960, he said. Interested applicants are advised to file before the end of this year, since only 5,000 acres can be included.

Applicants should have a description of the portion of their tract they wish to include for irrigation, he said. If purchasing under contract, both the seller and buyer will be required to sign the petition, he added.

Petitions for inclusion will be available at the district office in Talent starting Sept. 21, he said. Further information may be obtained at the district office.

D. C. VOTING APPROVED

Washington—(UPI)—The Senate, constitutional amendments subcommittee Friday approved 5 to 1 a proposed constitutional amendment to let District of Columbia residents vote for president and vice president. The measure would give the district as many delegates to the House as it would have House members if it were a state.

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