

Half Million Citizens Take Part in Decisions Program

(Editor's note: The Foreign Policy Association, Inc., New York City, recently issued its first national roundup report on the Great Decisions . . . 1960 program throughout the United States. Following is the report on the national program.)

So-called citizen indifference to happenings beyond the local community limits has received another setback, as the Foreign Policy Association of New York estimated that a new all-time high of over a half-million citizens became involved in its nationally sponsored "Great Decisions: 1960" - the nationwide program of community study and discussion of events and issues going on in the world that concern the present and future of America and all Americans.

Following a preliminary survey of the program which got under way on a national scale last week, the association said that "Great Decisions" had expanded its area of citizen activity from last year's 43 states to all 49 continental states and Hawaii, as well as to Guam and Antarctica.

Pointing out that steadily increasing support of the program by community communications media throughout the country has been the primary reason for continued expansion of the program since its inception in 1955 in the single state of Oregon with some 4,000 citizens involved, the report said that additional media support is one of the basic reasons for the indicated new high in the program's popularity this year.

Monitor Doing Work
For the duration of the 1960 program, for example, the report stated, the Christian Science Monitor is publishing each week eight full-page features, each appearing in advance of the week designated for study of "Great Decisions," and each written by Monitor foreign news correspondents and experts on the "Great Decisions" topic scheduled for the following week.

In commenting on the significance of the Monitor's support, the report stated that the Monitor's readership of these full-page articles in themselves "constitutes an intensive exposure and a definite involvement in the 1960 Great Decisions program."

In addition, the articles are being offered as supplementary study material to users of the "Decisions" fact sheets prepared by the FPA for discussion groups throughout the country. They are also being offered to daily and weekly newspapers "for possible use as classroom material in local schools."

On the basis of family as well as group readership of the Monitor, an estimated 300,000 additional citizens this year will become involved in either serious readership of the program topics or actual group discussion, or

both. This figure, added to a conservative estimate of 250,000 discussion group participants, based on distribution of FPA Fact Sheets used in the program, indicates that a total of over 500,000 citizens will be involved in "Great Decisions 1960," according to the report.

Comparable Treatment
Equally important to the growth picture of the program, the report continued, is comparable treatment of the "Decisions" topics by a substantial number of daily newspapers in leading cities throughout the country, and outstanding weekly newspapers in adjacent areas.

Explaining that some 250 daily and weekly community newspapers are supporting the "Great Decisions" program this year, as well as over 120 television and radio broadcasting stations, the report concludes that at least several million additional citizens will be exposed not only to the nature of the program but to the topics under discussion.

"While it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to reach any accurate estimate of the number of those exposed in this way who become active program participants," the report adds, "we do know that Great Decisions has been continually expanding, in depth as well as in area, and in our opinion much of the credit for this continued growth is due to its exposure each year to more and more people."

Apparent Effectiveness
Further evidence of the apparent effectiveness of the mass media is acquainting new citizens in new areas with the nature of the program is seen this year, it is pointed out, with the establishment of discussion groups in previously inactive areas.

Statewide programs are being conducted this year in Montana, with sponsorship of Montana State college and county agents, and in Nebraska with sponsorship of the University of Nebraska and the State Council of Churches.

Significant community-wide programs have also been established for the first time in Detroit, Mich., and Louisville, Ky., with the cooperation of educational, civic, religious, and labor organizations, and support of the press, television and radio stations.

Although it is too early in the 1960 program to give a detailed accounting of the expansion of programs, in those communities where "Great Decisions" have already been established on an organized basis with wide community support, the general pattern beginning to emerge at the end of the first week of the program is a healthy growth in representative areas across the country.

These areas include Boston, Worcester, and Springfield, Mass.; Hartford, Conn.; New Hampshire (statewide); Philadelphia, Pa.; Baltimore, Mary-

land; Cincinnati, O.; Denver, Colo. (city and statewide); Albuquerque, N.M.; Wyoming (statewide); San Francisco and Bay area, Calif.; Idaho (statewide); Oregon (statewide); Salt Lake City, Utah; Atlanta, Macon, Ga.; St. Petersburg, Tampa, Fla.

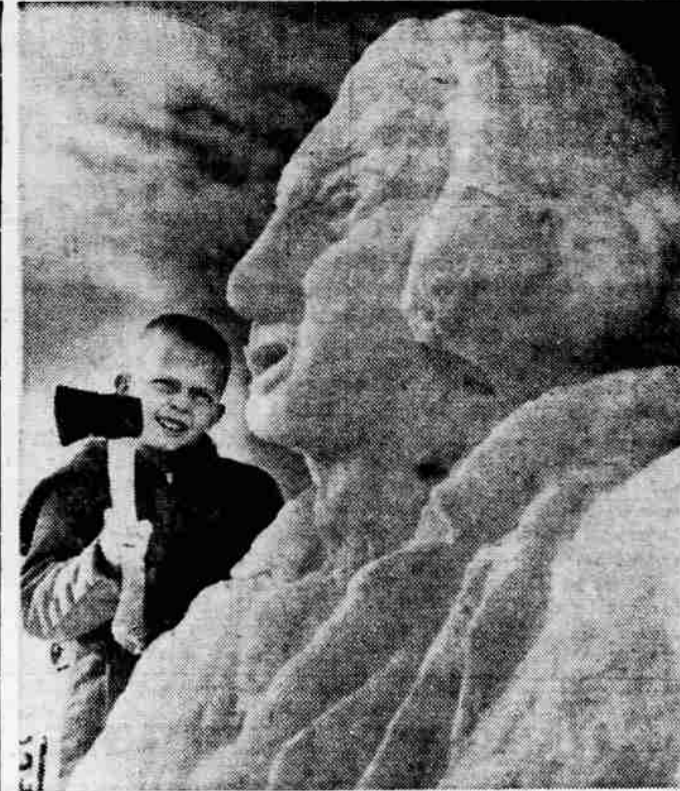
RECORD'S NAME
Washington - The Congressional Record has been so called since 1874. Before that it was known as the Congressional Globe, Register of Debates, and also the Annals of Congress.

'Superior Teaching' Conference Slated

Corvallis - (UPI) - A conference on "superior teaching" aimed at continued improvement of college teaching in Oregon, will be sponsored Feb. 26 and 27 by Oregon State College. All of the state's public and private colleges and universities will be represented.

Former U. S. Commissioner of Education Dr. Earl J. McGrath will be keynote speaker. McGrath is now executive officer of the Institute of Higher Education at Columbia University.

Another speaker will be Dr. William H. Burton, professor emeritus of education at Harvard University, who now lives in Corvallis.



ICE CARVING - Jim Phelps, 6, of Salt Lake City, was reminded of the cherry tree-hatchet story when he saw this ice carving of the Father of His Country, George Washington. The carving was made by David Thorn of Salt Lake City. (UPI Telephoto)

CHURCH GIVERS
Philadelphia - An average American church member is said to contribute about 20 cents a week for its support.

RANKS THIRD
Birmingham - Alabama ranks third among the states in the production of turpentine.

COTTON CONTENT
Birmingham - There may be as many as 100 million fibers in a single pound of cotton.

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NOW ENJOY sealed-in flavor SNOUX BEE HONEY

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Simple Simon Frozen APPLE PIE
8" Size Each Only 39c

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All Flavors-3-oz. Pkgs.
6 for 49c

Frozen Shrimp
Ship Ahoy-Breaded Fantail Full 1-lb. Packages 79c

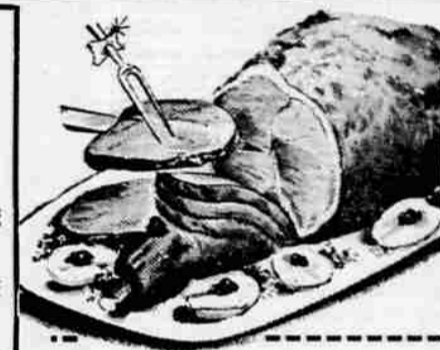
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Shoulder Roast lb. 35c
Chops lb. 49c
Shanks lb. 29c
Breast lb. 19c
Pure Gr. Lamb lb. 29c



PORK STEAKS
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SHRIMP 79c
Frying Size . . . 79c lb
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Thick Sliced 2 lbs. 89c
Standard Sliced 2 lbs. 69c

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