Kennedy's Food Stamp Plan for Needy Families Not Off Ground

Washington —UPI— President Kennedy's food stamp plan for feeding needy Americans in six distressed areas, announced three weeks ago, isn't off the ground yet. It may be two months more before anybody actually gets any free food under the program.

The first step toward putting the program into operation may come very soon, Agriculture department experts said. This will be a decision by Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman on what type or types of food stamp plans will be tested, and in what localities the tests will be made.

Agriculture department officials then will begin conferences with local and state officials and with officials of grocery trade groups to prepare for their role of cashing and redeeming food stamps.

An order also will have to be issued for printing the stamps, a job which Agriculture department officials have been told will take about two months.

Taken By Surprise

Kennedy's announcement that the experiments would be launched in areas of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, southern Illinois, eastern Kentucky, northern Minnesota and in Detroit caught Agriculture department officials by surprise.

They had not expected the presidential action so quickly, and in three weeks they have not settled a number of potential legal problems involved in the program.

The knottiest problem is the question of just what kind of action Congress authorized in a 1959 law which permits the administration to operate a food stamp program through January, 1962.

Agriculture department officials have indicated informally they are planning on programs in which needy families would use stamps to buy a wide range of foods, including meats, fruits, and vegetables, at grocery stores.

But some congressional attorneys who have studied the law believe that such programs might be stretching the language of the Food Stamp Act.

Cost Controversial

The cost of a food stamp program, if the experiments later are broadened into a wide-scale operation, also remains a controversial subject with few hard facts in sight.

The pilot experiments this year probably will not cost more than $50 million under current plans. If the experiments lead the administration to broaden the program, costs will be greater.

Police Officers Taking Course

Ten members of Medford's city police department, including Police Chief Charles P. Champlin, started taking a 14-lesson course last night in municipal police administration.

Besides Champlin, the police captain, four lieutenants and four sergeants are taking the course which is being taught in the city hall.

Offered and prepared by the International City Managers' association, the course provides instruction in all fields of police work, concentrating chiefly on the administrative aspects.

A moderator will be provided by the department to direct the course instruction at each class period. An essay of the discussion and suggestions arising out of each class session will be prepared and sent back to the association's Chicago headquarters for analysis.

Chief Champlin said he has been anxious to obtain this course for his department for several years. He said it is designed to prepare police supervisors to cope with all police problems.

Grange Notes

Williams Grange

Williams Grange was host to the Rogue River Valley Grange for visitation, Friday, Feb. 17, with 183 persons attending.

Henry Britt, master of the Rogue River Valley Grange, and his officers presided for the opening and closing ceremonies.

Chaplain Dolly Trent presented the traveling white Bible to Williams chaplain, Myrna Morrison. The Bible will "travel" to Shan Creek Grange from Williams Feb. 25, and will be awarded to the Josephine county Grange achieving the highest score for outstanding work during visitation.

Guests included Pomona Master Wayne Johnson and Masters Henry Britt, Sunny Valley Grange, Ethel Hemingson, Redwood, Charles Weybright, Shan Creek, Robert Shannon, Merlin, Lyle Van Gordon, North Pacific and Arthur Strickland, Fruitdale.

Deer Creek and Illinois Valley Granges were also represented.

HEC Chairman Mrs. Naomi Lathrop was in charge of refreshments and Mrs. Watt Trumbull, Mrs. Joseph Hyde and Mrs. A. D. Fitzpatrick arranged decorations.

Lake Creek Grange

Lecturer Betty Bradshaw presented a group of 4-H club members in a program at a recent Lake Creek Grange meeting. Mrs. Willard Walch was in charge of the program.

Willard Walch Jr. talked on "camp cookery," Olin Walch explained the method of making a stove, Victor Halsey reported for the Lake Creek Swine club, Alice Woolfolk reported on her trip to Salem, Tom Perry reported on the horse and beef clubs, and Lawrence Perry showed pictures of rodeos in which he has participated.

We welcomed as a new member to the Grange, Victor Halsey.

The Grange voted to contribute food for a smorgasbord planned for the Eagle Point Community club building.

Next Grange meeting will be held March 10 at 8:30 p.m.

Girl Scouts

Troop 31

Election of officers was held at the last meeting of Girl Scout Troop 31. Elected were President, Cathy Meinert; vice president, Linda Andrews; secretary and scribe, Joann Coffield; treasurer, Leonie Dalter.

Retiring officers are: President, Linda Kelley; vice-president, Cheryl Goodwin; secretary, Kitty Walden; and treasurer, Nina Chambers.

Prizes were given to the girls who brought in the most craft materials in the recent contest. First prize was won by Linda Kelley, second by Leonie Dalton, and third by Joann Coffield.

The girls are working toward their second class rank. Last week Barbara Nevens, as patrol leader, coached one group of girls in knot tying. The other group was coached on art work and embroidery and then led by Kitty Walden in a game of electricity.

Mrs. Howard Nevens is leader of the troop and Mrs. Frank Walden is assistant leader.

The thyme plant used for seasoning and flavoring food is native to [illegible] Europe.

State Hospital To Get Security Cases

Salem — UPI — Mental patients who would ordinarily be committed to Dammash State hospital near Wilsonville will go to the State hospital here instead if they have a record of sex offenses or anything else requiring heavy security.

The Board of Controls made this decision Tuesday. Dammasch, opening this spring, has no facilities for maximum security.

Man Suffers Minor Injuries in Crash

Clifford Leroy Eckel, 21, of 212 Rose st., sustained apparently minor injuries Monday when a car he was driving collided with another vehicle at the intersection of Third and Ivy sts.

Medford police said Eckel suffered a small cut on the side of his head, but did not request medical aid. The accident occurred about 11:30 a.m.

The driver of the other car was Loyce Cleo Carver, 42, of 901 North Central ave. Carver was cited for failure to yield the right of way to a vehicle on the right, police said. Both cars sustained heavy damage.

Volleyball Class Set At Medford YMCA

A co-ed volleyball class will start at the Medford Young Men's Christian association at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, the YMCA announced.

Purpose of the class is to enable the husband and wife to participate in an activity together. If enough interest is shown, a volleyball league will be formed, YMCA officials said.

The classes will be held between 7 and 9:45 p.m. each Tuesday. Additional information may be obtained from Dave Durzon, physical director at the YMCA, SPring 2-6295.

Retirement Home Planned at Baker

Baker — UPI — Plans have been announced for a 54-unit retirement home here to cost around $500,000.

Charles Simpson, president of the non-profit church group sponsoring the project, said the home will be called Elkhorn Villa and will be located south of the local postoffice. The Elkhorn Villa Corp. is composed of representatives of Presbyterian churches in an area stretching from Burns to Milton-Freewater.

Construction is planned when enough applications are received from senior citizens.

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9.95 COFFEE SERVING SET Pyrex	5.99
5.95 PYREX CASSEROLE	3.59
19.95 COCKTAIL SET 8 piece	7.99
8.95 STARLIGHT BLANKET Double Bed	3.99
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