

# Brainchild of FDR's New Deal May Be Resurrected by JFK

By ROBERT BUCKHORN  
United Press International  
Washington—If President Kennedy has his way, a brainchild of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal will be resurrected, given a new name, and put to work again.

It is the depression-born Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a program that took more than 2 million young Americans off the unemployment rolls in the 1930's and put them to work conserving the nation's natural resources.

Kennedy has asked Congress for a CCC but in a new dress. He calls it a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) but the objective would be about the same.

The birth certificate for the CCC was Roosevelt's executive order 6101. The date was April 5, 1933. The nation was at an economic standstill. Factories and farms were idle. Banks were going broke and closing. 13 million persons were jobless and millions more were in dire economic straits.

**Two-Pronged Weapon**  
Roosevelt, inaugurated with the historic declaration that "there was nothing to fear but fear itself," said he saw the CCC as a two-pronged weapon against the depression. It would, he said, "save a generation of upright and eager men . . . and restore our threatened national resources."

In 1963, Kennedy's argument is much the same. In a special message to Congress, he said many thousands of young men and women are among the nation's 5 million unemployed.

"Unemployment among young workers today is two and one-half times the national average," he said. He added that out-of-school youth be-



**PLANT TREES**—A group of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) youths are shown in this 1939 picture planting various kinds of trees in plowed furrows of flat lands. Presi-

dent Kennedy's proposed Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) would be similar to the CCC operation. (UPI)

tween 16 and 21 make up only 7 per cent of the labor force but 18 per cent of the unemployed. In addition to this, he said, is the growing juvenile delinquency rate—doubled in the last decade.

Roosevelt had his critics, and Kennedy has his. Opponents of the old CCC said the

program amounted to putting the unemployed in the Army under the guise of a conservative corps. Others were not so subtle. They said the CCC was nothing more than a concentration camp for the unemployed.

Today the YCC is being criticized on grounds it is too

big a remedy for too small a problem. In a report on a similar bill last year, conservative Sens. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), John G. Tower (R-Tex.), and Winston L. Prouty (R-Vt.) said the unemployment situation among youth does not warrant as big a program as the President proposed.

They said the armed forces were the obvious places for unemployed youths in need of training that would give them useful civilian skills. They conceded that conserving the national resources was a necessity but said it could be done more effectively by appropriating more money for

trained personnel rather than using youths drawn mostly from industrial areas.

**Leading Kennedy's Drive**  
Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) is leading the President's drive for the corps. In the first bill submitted to the senate this year, he outlined the type of program the White House wants. It calls for 15,000 candidates the first year and no more than 60,000 at any one time during the next four years.

Under the CCC, the first quota was 25,000 men but in its early 10 years of life it trained 2,600,000 youths.

The age requirements for both are the same—16 to 21, but YCC candidates would do better in the pay department. Recruits would get \$60 a month. Veterans of the CCC got \$50.

**Key Differences**  
One of the key differences between the two programs is in organization. Under CCC, the Army played a role. It has no place in the YCC. Humphrey's bill calls for the YCC to be set up within the labor department with a director appointed by the President.

The CCC had a director but it also had an advisory council consisting of a representative each from the labor, war, interior and agriculture departments.

It was the old war department's role that drew most criticism. It appointed reserve officers to run the camps. It paid the youths and dressed them in army-issue khaki. This led opponents of the CCC to term it more military than civilian.

The labor department actually recruited the men and the labor and agriculture department supplied the work projects.

opened in Virginia's George Washington National forest 10 days after Roosevelt signed his executive order. But when the CCC was finally phased out in 1942, camps had been set up in every state.

On the basis of its work record, the youth of the CCC did a monumental job. In Mississippi alone they planted 2 million trees. They built 38,550 bridges throughout the nation. They spent 6,450,403 man-days fighting fires, built 80 airfields and strung 88,883 miles of telephone wire.

In an estimate made to the House Appropriations commit-

tee in 1942, CCC officials put the value of work on public lands alone at \$1.75 billion.

**Proud of CCC**  
Roosevelt was proud of the CCC. "All you have to do is to look at the boys themselves to see that the camps are a success," he said.

Kennedy hopes for as much. He termed the Youth Corp bill "a measure of first priority."

An early vote on the measure is expected in Congress. Humphrey predicts it will be approved. But it still faces the same strong opposition that killed similar bills in both the 86th and 87th Congresses.

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## Mexicans in Growing Numbers Seeking Visas to United States

By JAIME PLENN  
United Press International  
Mexico City—Outside the U.S. consulate on this city's broad Paseo de la Reforma, throngs of straw-hatted, shirt-sleeved, sun-tanned farmhands stand patiently waiting their turn.

"Operation Visa" is in full swing.

Formerly only seasonal, the lines now are bulging daily in an unprecedented exodus to the United States.

The 13 American consulates in Mexico, constituting Uncle Sam's biggest visa-issuing operation in the world, are having difficulty keeping abreast of the 5,000 visa applications every month.

**Now On Waiting List**  
Already, there are some 125,000 Mexicans on the waiting list, estimates Consul-General Terrance G. Laonhardy here.

Laonhardy attributes much of the mushrooming demand for visas to the big drop in work contracts offered Mexican "Braceros" (laborers) on agricultural projects and farms in southwestern and western United States.

The farmers want to go back and settle permanently, Laonhardy explained.

Once an immigrant visa is issued, then all a Mexican has to do is enter the United States within four months, keep working and register with immigration authorities every January as an alien. In the meantime, he can apply for naturalization as a citizen.

**Poor Living Conditions**  
Most observers feel one of the main factors for the exodus is poor living conditions among large numbers of peasant families in this country.

In recent months, dissatisfaction with farm conditions became clear when "squatters" moved right onto some farm lands after waiting for years to get their own tracts under agrarian reform provisions.

The government has announced it will eliminate all large estates before the end of President Adolfo Lopez Mateos' six-year term on Dec. 1, 1964.

But agitation became intensified recently with formation of a new peasant confederation as a challenge to the long-established, government-dominated national peasants confederation.

No matter what the situation now, officials here say, Mexico probably always will lead the world in "Operation Visa."

"Mexico is a non-quota country," explained Laonhardy. "There is no actual limitation on Mexicans getting



**MEXICANS WORKING**—Itinerant Mexican workers are shown in this picture taken recently as they harvest a tomato crop. (UPI)

visas to the U.S.—the only limitation that could ever arise is just how fast it is physically possible for consular officers to investigate applications.

Once the basic requirements are fulfilled, Laonhardy said, a consular officer processes and issues a visa within two and one-half hours.

Laonhardy said the present rising waiting list makes it highly improbable new applicants will be called for interviews or visa action "for a year or more." But the demand is bound to continue to rise, he said.

"Every time we issue one visa, we calculate that means

three more. Once a Mexican is working and settled in the United States, he naturally wants his family or some relatives to join him."

### Crater Student Is Finalist in Search

Michael R. Guss, senior at Crater High school, is one of the 13 finalists in the Oregon State Talent Search, according to Raymond E. Barrett, director of education at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, which sponsors the state competition.

Guss' research involved an investigation of the factors relative to the rate of fatigue in muscles.

The 13 finalists will present their work orally before judges at OMSI as part of the Science Youth Congress program May 3-5. Winners will be invited to the Science Award Banquet May 25 to share in scholarships, summer research jobs and bonds, along with winners of the Northwest Science Fair and Future Scientists of America competitions.

### University To Offer Evening Seminar

The University of Oregon will offer an evening seminar in Cases and Concepts in Educational Administration in Medford spring term through Oregon's general extension division.

The course, Ed 507, will be offered for three hours of credit. Classes will meet in Medford High school beginning April 3. The session will be on Wednesday night from 7 to 9:45 p.m.

Fees are at the rate of \$12.50 per credit hour. Courses are generally open to anyone.

About 600 evening classes are being offered spring term throughout Oregon by the colleges and universities in the state system of higher education. The classes are administered by continuation centers of the general extension division.

Additional information on the course to be offered in Medford is available from Charles Ivie, head of the Ashland Continuation center at Southern Oregon college.

### Surplus Property from State Now in Siskiyou

Yreka-Sen. Randolph Collier said an estimated \$1,253,236.37 worth of surplus property, supplies, equipment, and training has been allocated to Siskiyou county through the state disaster office program, including 1961-62 contributions of \$183,317.97 in surplus property.

Collier pointed out the surplus property was received at a cost of \$11,452.60 to the local communities, and value of the surplus property was computed on the basis of original purchase price by the federal government.

An additional \$345,432.84 in disaster relief has been received by Siskiyou county as grants under Public Law 875. Collier pointed out the \$1.2 million received by Siskiyou county was a portion of a

total of \$63.2 million distributed in the entire state.

Collier said state owned or controlled disaster equipment assigned to Siskiyou county includes 75 radiation detection instruments, one radiological trailer, four emergency hospitals with a 500 patient capacity each; four first aid stations equipped to provide emergency care for 600 casualties each; two fire pumps, fully equipped and capable of pumping 1,000 gallons per minute.

### 42 Measles Cases Reported in CP

Central Point with 42 cases of measles had the largest number of communicable diseases in Jackson county last week, Dr. A. Erwin Merkel, director of the public health department, reported.

Medford had 11 cases of measles, Gold Hill 5 and Sams Valley 2.

Central Point also had more cases of mumps than the other communities with a total of 16. There were two cases reported in Gold Hill and one in Ashland.

Influenza hit Shady Cove harder than other county districts. There were 16 cases reported by Shady Cove, 15 by Medford, 11 by Ashland, and 6 at Central Point.

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