

## Great Decisions Discussion Groups Wanted In Oregon

Wanted: Oregonians to join their friends in forming Great Decisions discussion groups. Only requirement is an interest in key foreign policy issues facing the U.S. in 1960 and a desire to study facts to arrive at an informed opinion.

Study groups that follow the national Great Decisions discussion outline will meet weekly during February and March, explained state chairman Mrs. Mabel Mack, assistant director of Oregon State College extension service.

Great Decisions discussion groups give participants an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of current foreign affairs. Small, informal discussion groups are the heart of the program through which individuals form their own opinions on U.S.

foreign policy and report their opinions to policy-makers in Washington.

Discussion topics for the forthcoming nationwide study of foreign policy are: Communist Timetable for 1960, Divided Europe, Red China on the March, India's Middle Way, Hope for Stability in the Middle East, Goals for Africa, Cuba's Revolution, and U.S. Global Strategy.

Fact sheets giving background information on the topics are prepared by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA), a nationwide, nonpartisan educational agency. FPA's fact sheets this year will present three viewpoints on each of the eight topics: America's, the communists', and the country involved.

At the end of each discussion,

participants will record their own decisions on individual ballots. Summary of opinion ballots cast in Oregon will be sent to the U.S. state department.

County Great Decisions councils are being reactivated now throughout the state to help organize the 1960 program and make study materials available to discussion groups. Mrs. Mack explained that each study group organizes and runs itself, but can look to the county council for help.

Last year more than 400 groups organized in Oregon. The program also is carried by high school social studies classes. Each issue is reviewed by Oregon newspapers, television and radio stations throughout the state.

Bruce Blake, FPA assistant regional director, San Francisco,

suggests that many existing groups might want to discuss Great Decisions topics each week. Possibilities might be bridge clubs, car pools, business people who lunch together, firemen, church groups, and any others who would like to study and share their views on U.S. foreign policy, he said.

Great Decisions is co-sponsored in Oregon by Oregon State College extension service and the general extension division of the state system of higher education in cooperation with the FPA, the state department of education, state library, and some 25 statewide organizations.

For further information about the 1960 Great Decisions program contact your county Great Decisions chairman or your county extension agent, Mrs. Mack says.

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