

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U. S. D. A. DEFENSE BOARD

College Station, Texas

January 15, 1942

TO CHAIRMEN OF COUNTY USDA DEFENSE BOARDS

Two phases of the Food for Victory Campaign have been successfully accomplished, namely, the establishment of the national, state and county goals; and, secondly, the farm plan pledge sheet signing by farmers.

The third and most difficult phase is just ahead. This is the accomplishment of needed increases in production. The measurement of success, for example, is going to be the eggs in the crate, the milk in the pail, and slaughtered animals on the hook. This third phase can be accomplished only by farm people. The County Defense Boards can materially assist by conducting an educational program, furnishing technical and practical production information sprinkled with inspiration and patriotism. The shortage of labor on farms and limitation of supplies of new farm machinery make it imperative that there be a greater production per man and per tool, and that this be done at the lowest possible production cost per unit.

The State USDA Defense Board in session at College Station on January 12 devoted much time to this third phase of the program. As a result of the discussion, the State Board appointed a committee to draft a suggested outline of procedure for County Defense Boards to use in conducting the county educational program. This committee has made the following suggestions:

1. The chairman of the County USDA Defense Board will call a meeting of the Board and work out detailed plans for a meeting of all county and community agricultural workers. These detailed plans should include informational materials to be presented to the county-wide meeting, topics to be discussed by the group, and designation of individuals to lead in various parts of the discussion. The Board should select a member to serve as leader for the Board in the educational phase of the program. It would be appropriate and in line with the Secretary's Memorandum, No. 921, and the general plan of the campaign, for the County Agricultural Agent to be selected for this responsibility.
2. The County USDA Defense Board chairman will call the second meeting of the County Board and invite all county and community agricultural

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workers, including County Home Demonstration Agents, Vocational Agriculture and Homemaking teachers, Chairmen of Home Demonstration Councils and Land Use Planning Committees, key farm leaders, county AAA committeemen and secretaries, members of the County Agricultural Workers Association, Soil Conservation District Supervisors, District and County Farm Security Home Management Supervisors, and others who are in position to make a contribution in carrying on an educational program. In counties where negro agricultural workers are employed, they should be given consideration.

3. The chairman, or someone selected by him, should present to the group information, giving county production figures for 1941 and county total production pledges by farmers for 1942 for all commodities for which increases are asked. If possible, this information should be furnished for communities or sections of the county.

4. Definite plans and procedures whereby each agency and individual can work effectively should be developed. Each person should go away from the meeting with a definite understanding as to the part each agency and individual is going to play in the campaign. This can be done only if detailed plans are worked out. Each commodity for which farmers have pledged increased production should be discussed and definite plans worked out whereby each agency and individual will have a definite job to do and when done, will contribute to the county-wide campaign. This will prevent possible confusion and result in maximum accomplishment.

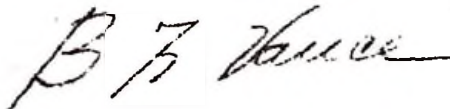
5. The plans should provide for continuing the farm machinery repair and scrap iron programs.

6. Full use should be made of the radio, news releases and other publicity facilities during the campaign.

You, as chairman of the County USDA Defense Board, should call the meeting recommended in the first item as soon as possible in order that definite plans may be developed. Do not delay — 1942 is here — we must get busy if we are to fulfill our pledges. A copy of this letter is being sent each member of County Defense Boards and other agricultural workers by their respective State representatives.

When the above mentioned meeting is held and plans are fully developed, you will please report to me by letter the date of the meeting, the agencies represented, and a brief outline of the detailed plans developed for the educational program to be carried out in your county,

Very sincerely yours,



B. F. Vance  
Chairman, Texas USDA Defense Board