

1. FARM CADETS

- a. Superintendents and principals notified to put Farm Cadet idea before all able-bodied boys of suitable age.
- b. Enlistment blanks printed.
- c. Called meetings in every county (including New York City) sending a representative of the Department to each meeting to explain the farm cadet idea and to announce that any pupil who enlists for and renders satisfactory agricultural or industrial service will be credited with the work of the present term without examination.
- d. Organization of home aid units for girls. (Not members of Corps of Cadets). Red Cross; canning clubs, etc.

2. SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.

- a. 207 District Superintendents directed by telegram to secure data for the survey by the Governor's Committee.
- b. Supplement to bulletin sent out with directions for teachers. ✓
- c. Superintendents and teachers in hearty cooperation. ✓

3. GARDENS.

- a. Bill introduced in Legislature (passed Assembly) authorizing Department to pay one-half salary of agricultural supervisor. Waverly, Troy, Rochester, Oneonta, North Tarrytown, Scarsdale have gone ahead. Others waiting until bill is passed. ✓
- b. Seventy agricultural teachers have been instructed to serve the community first in farm and garden activities and make class room work secondary. These men are to be in service during the summer. 1500 boys who have had from one to four years agricultural instruction are released to return to the home farm. 90% of these boys are from the farm. ✓

4. PREPAREDNESS TRAINING FOR TEACHERS.

- a. Junior and Senior Home Economics girls at State College for Teachers are to be released from regular work on May 1 and start intensive training in "Cooking for Agricultural Camp Cadets"; "Preserving Foods usually Wasted"; "The Use of jars, bottles, etc. ordinarily discarded, for canning and preserving."
- b. Information received from inquiries sent out. Buffalo and Oswego Normal Schools, Mechanics Institute, Teachers College and Skidmore School of Practical Arts have similar plans under way.
- c. 1200 teachers of manual and household arts in the public schools have been notified to change the usual plan of work wherever necessary to adjust it to the mobilization plan: i. e., manual training teachers to give over the indoor bench work to garden work; sewing teachers to be thinking in terms of Red Cross, mending, darning and repairing; cooking teachers to confine instruction to simple and necessary dishes.

WHAT MAY BE DONE BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

1. Follow up of Farm Cadets' agricultural or industrial service to determine if satisfactory in order that the boy may be credited with the school work. Colleges which have already started this plan find that it is necessary

to follow up students in order that the privilege may not be abused.

To be done through three hundred assistants to district superintendents and teachers of agriculture.

2. Continue during the summer instruction in preserving food as present necessity requires: i. e., instead of glass and tin containers, old fashioned methods of preserving, etc. 1000 teachers are now giving this instruction but the real work will be during the vacation period.

At least three hundred of these teachers should be retained in cities and rural districts.

WHAT THE MILITARY TRAINING COMMISSION HAS UNDERTAKEN.

1. The establishment of the Farm Cadet Unit of the Corps of Cadets, State of New York. As a result of this action every boy 16, 17 and 18 years of age who enlists for farm work will not simply be doing work which will be recognized as having a military value, but will become actually a member of the military training corps of the State. The compulsory military training amendment adopted this year, under which the Military Training Commission is working during the present emergency, gives the Commission authority to accept vocational training or experience as meeting in part the military training requirement of not more than three hours a week. Acting upon the authority so granted, the Commission voted to recognize the farm work during the present emergency as meeting the military training requirement for boys of training age during the remainder of the present year, that is, until January 1, 1918.
2. Appointed Arthur Dean, Director of Agricultural and Industrial Education of the Education Department, as Temporary Supervising Officer of the Bureau of Vocational Training, Military Training Commission to organize the Farm Cadet Unit.
3. Has established a New York City office with Doctor Fisher of the Commission in direct charge to cooperate with all agencies concerned with placing New York City boys, who are 16, 17 and 18 years of age, on farms: agencies like public schools, private and parochial schools, Y. M. C. A's, Young Men's Hebrew Associations, railroads leading out of the city, agricultural societies on Long Island, etc.

THE MILITARY TRAINING COMMISSION IS READY TO OFFER ITS SERVICES

1. To extend its work which is not defined by law to military training equivalents in agriculture and industry to boys of 16, 17 and 18 years of age, to the larger field of cooperating with the Governor's Patriotic Agricultural Service Committee in the placement of all ablebodied boys over 14 years of age in fields of agricultural and industrial service irrespective of the military training service applicable to a limited number of youth of the State.
2. It ~~is~~ respectfully suggests that the problem of placing the boys now living on farms is adequately provided for by the action of the Education Department in releasing boys from school work, in that these boys have a job provided for them by the home conditions and that practically no attention for this group of boys is necessary on the part of the Committee.
3. It believes that the problem of placing boys now attending schools in villages and small cities may be safeguarded and handled adequately by the local superintendent, principal and farm bureau man who will inquire into the status of the position which the boy will fill and these men will be somewhat responsible for the plan for placing boys on farms adjacent to

the community in which they live. Boys in such communities will not be encouraged to seek work or accept offers outside of the county in which they live.

4. The Commission is of the opinion that the great problem is the placing of the city boys of such cities as New York, Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, Utica and Albany upon farms which are not necessarily adjacent to these cities. It is ready to cooperate with the Governor's Committees on labor and transportation in establishing and conducting offices in these larger cities for placing boys over 14 years of age in such agricultural and industrial service as is related to food production and conservation. It is willing to assume its part of the program concerning the employment of boys.
5. To do this the Military Training Commission recommends to the Governor's Committee:
 - (a) That the Committee authorize the Commission to appoint a committee to handle the boy employment work in each of the six Military Training zones (New York City, including ~~Manhattan~~, Bronx and Richmond; Long Island, including Brooklyn; Hudson Valley at Albany; East Central at Syracuse; West Central at Rochester and Western at Buffalo), the said Committee to coordinate all the forces concerned with the problem and to deal directly with any office of the Governor's Committee which may be established in these cities. The Commission requests authorization to engage a paid executive and sufficient office force to do the work incident to the placing of boys.
 - (b) The Commission will seek, through these committees, to provide for adequate care and protection of the boys while at work by entering into relations with leaders of Boy Scouts, State, County and City Y. M. C. A.'s, religious and civic organizations, for that social and moral direction essential to the boys who are sent in squads to work at seasonal occupations.