

"LABOR REQUIREMENTS AND LABOR RESOURCES OF THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY OF TEXAS" is the subject of a report recently made by EASTIN NELSON and FREDERIC MEYERS, Texas University Economists.

THIS OBJECTIVE, COMPETENT STUDY is the type of thing that should be done more often as a first step to problems demanding attention. Particularly is the scientific approach a wise and urgent step when the problem involved is of national or international scope as in the case of labor resources of the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

THE TWO ECONOMISTS FOUND THAT A SCARCITY OF LABOR DEVELOPS for two months during the cotton harvest; during the rest of the year there is a sufficient or surplus labor supply for agriculture.

CAUSES OF THE PROBLEM ARE ATTRIBUTED TO "The living standards which Mexican nationals are willing to tolerate, and the fact that so many of them are only temporary residents, have made it unnecessary for Valley farmers to provide housing, sanitary facilities or other non-wage prerequisites adequate to retain a permanent resident farm population familiar with or educated to normal American standards. These two factors--low wages and poor living conditions--undoubtedly provide the incentive to movement from the Valley about which so many Valley farmers complain, and upon which they rely in their argument for the necessity of continued unrestricted entry of Mexican nationals.

THE REPORT GOES ON TO MAKE SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS AS: "It appears to your investigators that a rectification of these two conditions combined with the peculiar advantage of near year round work opportunities, would go far toward permitting the Valley to build up a dependable permanent resident agricultural labor supply. Such a program, while of some pecuniary cost on its face, would permit the farmer to avoid the vicissitudes inherent in dependence upon extra-legal or illegal recruitment--the variations in enforcement of entry regulations, the needs of Mexican agriculture, international pressures, and all of the circumstances which make the existing situation both precarious and morally indefensible in its open and almost conspiratorial breaches of international treaties and the laws of two nations.

"At the same time the Valley as a community would benefit from the stability and economic advantage that a better paid resident stable labor force provides. It is somewhat anomalous that the Valley, like most communities, is actively seeking permanent industrial installations to supplement local payrolls, while acquiescing in the flight from the Valley, seasonal and long terms, inherent in its way of recruiting agricultural labor."

MUCH INTERESTING INFORMATION IS CONTAINED CONCERNING BOTH THE MEXICAN AND UNITED States side of this wealthy expanding agricultural frontier. The report emphasizes that both sides form one economic unit and recommends passing cards for farm labor for border towns.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS REPORT lies especially in the careful research on acreage in ratio to existing resident labor force to work it. Only on the basis of such facts and figures can any responsible and intelligent remedy be planned. Credit is due Texas Southmost College of Brownsville for requesting and sponsoring the study.

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DECEMBER 3RD AND 4TH DEFINITELY WILL BE THE DATES OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI MEETING OF THE Good Neighbor Commission, and a program is currently being arranged that will include international monetary and press relations. MR. HERBERT E. GASTON, Chairman of the Export-Import Bank, and LIC. ANTONIO CARILLO FLORES, President of the Mexican

Nacional Financiera, and MR. ROBERT L. GARNER, Vice-President and General Manager of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, commonly known as the World Bank, will be key speakers at a forum designed to show commercial banks how they might participate in the international transactions resulting from North American loans made abroad, particularly in Latin-America.

BANKERS FROM ALL OVER TEXAS AND MEXICAN FINANCE FIGURES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND, as well as a large segment of the Mexican press. The Texas press will be host to the Mexican newsmen at a round table to discuss each others views and to acquaint the Mexican press with our Texas way of life in order that they might better report with accuracy and true colors in Mexico news events emanating from this side of the Rio Bravo.

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCILS ARE ESPECIALLY INVITED to attend this meeting which should prove of interest as well as entertaining. Your intentions should be made known to MR. BRUCE REAGAN, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, Wilson Building, Corpus Christi, Texas, as early as possible in order that hotel reservations can be made for you. Hotel headquarters will be the Robert Driscoll.

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DR. GEORGE SANCHEZ DECLARED AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE GREAT ISSUES COURSE, WEDNESDAY, October 25, that vast resources for tomorrow's better way of American life can be found in today's minorities. "We are all immigrants, and have gone, or are now going, through the process of making ourselves at home in America," DR. SANCHEZ said. "Yesterday's American minorities are today's native sons--today's minorities constitute an important part of the human resources out of which a better tomorrow can be built."

DR. SANCHEZ also spoke on a point that this Commission takes in regard to education in Texas (see Weekly Report, October 13). "To me it is inexcusable that public education in Texas has failed to capitalize on its heritage of the Spanish language--or of German in such communities as New Braunfels and Fredericksburg. Our schools long ago should have seized upon these natural cultural resources," he added, "and use them to design a better education for all Texans."

PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, DR. SANCHEZ was also named to serve on the COUNCIL FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN RELATIONS, by Governor ALLAN SHIVERS last May.

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P & K CAFE IN NEW BRAUNFELS DOES IT AGAIN--HOW ONE INDIVIDUAL CAN MAR THE REPUTATION of a whole community in the eyes of the world is exemplified in the copy of a letter from MR. J. MIL AULD, Superintendent of Mission Public Schools, which appears as a supplement to this issue. Significantly, this Commission has received many reports of this nature against the same establishment over a period of years.

IRONIC IS THE FACT that these Mission school children were returning from the annual BAND DAY festivities in Austin--an occasion characterized by competitive sportsmanship, cooperation and teamwork without regard to any distinguishing marks of the individual participants. We can't help but wonder which lesson was most impressive on these fertile minds:

A SUBSEQUENT LETTER FROM J. MIL AULD expresses gratitude and appreciation to MR. E. A. STAATS, President of Comal County Chamber of Commerce and member of the New Braunfels GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMITTEE, for the part that chamber played in the wonderful reception and entertainment of the MISSION SCHOOL BAND at the Faust Hotel. "I know," MR. AULD stated, "that the action of the P. K. Cafe does not represent the sentiments of your people."

THE TRUE SENTIMENTS OF NEW BRAUNFELS were also reflected by quick action on the part of MAYOR A. D. NUHN and MR. E. A. STAATS, and it is expected that a straight-forward and positive approach will do much toward correcting the situation in New Braunfels.

A TERSE NOTE ON THE SUBJECT RECEIVED FROM SAN ANTONIO: "We can't recommend their food, but for travellers on HIGHWAY 81 who choose to dine in the uncontaminated seclusion of their own smug social class, we heartily recommend the P & K CAFE in New Braunfels. To assure more ready access to this emporium of ethnic qualities, connoisseurs are advised to carry documentary evidence of their genealogy. Be warned, however, that the proof not establish your forefathers died in the ALAMO--THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN MEXICAN!"

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ALSO CALLED TO OUR ATTENTION BY MRS. PEDRO ESTRADA WAS AN INCIDENT WHICH ACCURED RECENTLY in LUBBOCK. She and her husband, after purchasing tickets at the ARCADIA THEATRE there, were refused orchestra seats in such a manner as to attract the attention of passersby and cause a great deal of embarrassment.

CITIZENS OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES, they were travelling through Lubbock at the time. "I'm sick and tired of not being able to travel through my own state and country like a free, decent human being," MRS. ESTRADA stated. "Americans of Mexican extraction can't go in at eating places, can't freely ask for lodging at hotels or tourist courts except for very rare exceptions, why one can't even freely make use of rest rooms at filling stations, especially in this part of the country."

THIS COMMISSION IS CURRENTLY MAKING AN URGENT APPEAL to the mayor of Lubbock and some of its outstanding citizens to appoint a LOCAL HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL THERE.

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A MEETING OF LATIN-AMERICAN LEADERS AND MEMBERS OF THE KYLE, TEXAS, SCHOOL BOARD WAS held at the Public School there last night to discuss the problem of segregation of the so-called "Mexican School". MR. ED IDAR, Chairman of the American G. I. Forum of Austin, was spokesman for the group composed of ROMULO GARCIA, President of the Kyle G. I. Forum, PAT MENDEZ, President of the Austin Forum, RAFAEL FLORES and ANTONIO CASTILLEJA.

MR. IDAR stated that his Forum intended to make a test case of segregation of Latin-American students in Kyle schools unless a satisfactory agreement could be reached with the school authorities.

THE SCHOOL BOARD STATED that it was awaiting a decision of the STATE EDUCATION AGENCY regarding requirements of qualified high schools in order to know whether its high school would be retained or moved to San Marcos. As soon as this word is received, a bond issue can be voted if the high school is retained by Kyle, and in any event, the segregated school will be ended by next September, the board said.

THOMAS S. SUTHERLAND, Executive Secretary of the GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMISSION, broached the possibilities of moving the four-room segregated school building to the Kyle school grounds. MR. IDAR asked, if this were done, whether or not the building would be occupied solely by Latin-American students.

PRESIDENT OF THE KYLE SCHOOL BOARD, MR. A. A. HALE, replied that it would be occupied, if moved, by Latin and Anglo-American students. He pointed out, however, that the building was practically worthless and not worth the cost of moving for

seven months' use. He estimated moving costs to be from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

THE UHLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER asked if the Latin-American people would be willing to pay the expense of moving the building. SUTHERLAND conjectured they probably would, although it was not their obligation to contribute beyond the framework of school taxation, in order to terminate the unsatisfactory situation. (Superintendent JAMES L. CHILES had agreed with the report on bad sanitary facilities of the segregated school).

NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED except that the Latin-American citizens of Kyle, acting in collaboration with the school board, would get an estimate on the cost of moving the segregated school building, and would explore the feelings of Kyle's community in regard to raising funds for that purpose.

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EXCELSIOR, OCTOBER 19--An AP dispatch from Washington advises that the World Bank yesterday announced a precedent-setting ten million dollar credit to help finance small business enterprises in Mexico. Small business men may borrow the money through eight major banks in Mexico City, Monterrey and Chihuahua. The plan will reduce red tape, delay, cost and other factors which have made small loans of from \$25,000 to \$1,000,000 from the World Bank impractical. It will also reduce interest rates to borrowers.

EL UNIVERSAL, OCTOBER 18--On behalf of an important group of persons, Dr. Alberto Enriquez S., of Chihuahua, has written to this paper for the purpose of entering an energetic protest against the bad treatment given national and foreign travellers over the Panamerican highway (Ciudad Juarez--Chihuahua stretch) by the Customs personnel.

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THE WEEKLY REPORT TAKES ON A NEW FACE WITH THIS ISSUE AND WILL ONLY BE PUBLISHED BI-weekly henceforth. This measure is designed to ease the work load of the small GNC staff which has been devoting many late hours and week-ends to the publication.

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ANOTHER INTERESTING LETTER APPEARS AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THIS ISSUE. JOSE SANTOS, LAREDO, really sums up the problems of the Latin-American minority in a simple but complete and sincere manner. A GNC staff member, attending The University of Texas, commented, "He says more in two pages than a college prof could cover in two hours."