

## Controversy By Farmers Over Great Plains

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A House subcommittee studying agriculture appropriations for the next fiscal year reported today a controversy had arisen among farmers over the Great Plains program.

The Farmers Association for Resource Management came out strongly against any extension of the program, which was started in 1958. The National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, however, asked Congress to speed up the program.

Under the Great Plains Act, farmers contract on a long-term basis for a complete resource management program with the Agriculture Department. They are obligated to carry out all the terms of the contract, or face severe penalties. In return, the federal government picks up part of the cost of rehabilitating the farms.

### Predict Federal Takeover

FARM told the subcommittee in closed hearings last month a continuation of the Great Plains plan could result in government ownership of farms. It added it had already resulted in placing managerial control of such farms under contract in a government bureau—the Agriculture Stabilization Service.

The organization, which claims membership in 29 states, also said the services performed under the Great Plains Act were duplicated in ASC programs.

Representatives of the Soil Conservation Districts Assn., however, took the opposite position.

They said the program has already resulted in greater agricultural stability in the great dust bowl of the 1930s.

The original Great Plains Act authorized expenditures of up to \$50 million dollars through 1971. So far 20 million dollars has been appropriated, and the administration recommended another 10 million dollars in the new budget.

### Five-Year Average

"Since these contracts are averaging five years in length," a spokesman for NASCD said, "there are only five more years that contracts can be written under the authorization."

"Contracting at a rate of only 10 million dollars per year will permit reaching only about one-half the total level of operations provided for in the authorizing legislation."

The organization asked that ap-

propriations be stepped up to the level authorized.

A Crowell, Tex., farmer, Grady Halbert, also asked for an expansion of the program. He told the subcommittee the government spent millions for emergency relief a few years ago in the 10-state Plains area during a prolonged drought. He said this relief was fine, but not permanent. He added the Great Plains program would stabilize the area during emergencies.

## Purdue Road School In Annual Session

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (UPI) — County road and city street officials met in separate sessions today to study their problems as the 46th annual Purdue Road School entered its second day.

More than 500 persons attended. The crowd increased from the record 400 who attended the opening session Monday and heard several speakers, including an Indiana State Highway Department engineer who said about 95 million dollars in highway work will be placed under contract in Indiana this year.

J.R. Cooper, assistant chief engineer for the department, said the 95 millions will include about 35 million dollars for the interstate highway system, 25 millions for primary roads, 17 millions for secondary roads, 14 millions for urban roads, and 4 millions for resurfacing.

Cooper told the delegates that Indiana ranks 10th nationally in interstate highway construction now underway, including 139 miles of roads costing 63 million dollars and 190 bridges costing 48 millions.

He told of other highway work the state is doing.

"This is quite a change,"

Cooper said, "from several years back when the late Sam Hadden, then chairman of the Indiana State Highway Commission, re-

turned from Washington and rather ruefully informed us that only Puerto Rico was in a worse position than Indiana in the ob-

ligating of federal funds.

"There was, of course, a good reason at that time because there had been no increase in the gas tax rate since 1929 and inflation and highway need had greatly exceeded the ability of available state funds to do the job."

Over 2,500 Daily Democrats are sold and delivered in Decatur each day.

The organization asked that ap-

## Capital City Cracks Down On Violators

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — Indianapolis police and judges cracked down today on traffic law violators in an effort to stem a rising tide of fatalities on city streets.

The drive reached a crescendo after three youths were killed in a drag-race collision on a north side street early Sunday, raising the 1960 traffic death toll in Marion County to 37, more than twice the number killed by this time last year.

Traffic Capt. Dean Schwartz of motorcycle policemen will go on nighttime duty tonight on orders of Traffic Inspector Audry Jacobs.

Most of the patrols have been daytime assignments in the past.

Eleven motorcycle patrolmen Monday night made 87 arrests.

The city's four municipal court judges also adopted tougher policies in handling traffic violators, particularly those with previous arrest records.

Judge Charles Daugherty referred to the triple fatality accident from the bench Monday.

"In every neighborhood in this city," Daugherty said, "there is some young idiot who tries to kill himself in a convertible about this time of year."

"This accident is a classic example. I do not intend to reflect particularly on this accident, but this happens year after year. The lesson falls on deaf ears. It is a dilemma, a tragedy."

Earlham Student Reported Better

RICHMOND, Ind. (UPI) — The condition of an Earlham College student, victim of a poisonous snake bite during the weekend, was listed as "fairly good" at Reid Memorial Hospital today, an improvement over his "serious" condition Monday.

The victim, Robert Douglas, 20, a junior from Ann Arbor, Mich., was bitten by a copperhead in a collection of poisonous and non-poisonous reptiles at the Earlham museum, when he reached for it in the mistaken belief it was of a non-poisonous species.

James Cope, curator of the museum, said Douglas was the first person to be bitten by a poisonous snake at the museum. Douglas is a veteran of three years in handling snakes at the museum.

Other species of poisonous snakes in the collection include two kinds of rattlers and a water moccasin, Cope said.

"If we had contests like we had in 1952," Beaman said, "Nixon would poll a very, very large

## Both Parties Seek Good Vote In May Primary

By BOYD GILL  
United Press International

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — The Democratic and Republican state chairmen agreed today that the Indiana presidential preference primaries May 3 should not be considered a "popularity contest" between Sen. John F. Kennedy and Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

The primaries are two weeks from today.

Kennedy, a Democrat, and Nixon, a Republican, have only token opposition in their respective Hoosier primaries, and one would think a big drum-beating campaign might develop among their backers to see which could pile up the heaviest vote.

But chairman Edwin Beaman of the GOP state committee and chairman Charles Skilkin of the Democratic organization feel there is no popularity significance attached to the balloting.

"If Kennedy gets a lot more votes than Nixon, I would consider it evidence that he is more popular," Skilkin said. "But I don't think the primary in Indiana will be so much a popularity contest between Nixon and Kennedy as it is a contest between county precinct organizations and local candidates."

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