Farm Cadet Victory Corps, 1943

Boys and Girls from public and private schools and colleges

Memorandum for--County Agricultural Agents and Farm Placement Representatives USES
From W. J. Weaver--State Education Department

1. About March 15, a letter will be sent from the Education Department to all
(1) city, village and district superintendents (2) principals of public schools above
junior high school grade and (3) headmasters of private schools and academies, en-
closing sample of enrollment card and descriptive circular of FCVC program. Copy
will be sent to County Agricultural Agents and Farm Placement Representatives.
2. After letter has been received at schools, County Agricultural Agents and
Farm Placement Representatives, at their discretion may wish to arrange meetings of
key persons of school systems of county (1) to stimulate enrollment and (2) to de-
termine most satisfactory way of handling enrollment cards, holding student inter-
views if desired and making farm placements. In many areas, personal conferences
will be more effective than a general meeting. Whenever a meeting is arranged and
it is desired that representatives of Education Department be present, we will be
glad to attend whenever possible.
3. In all counties, local help should be utilized first. If need exists for
additional help than that available locally, arrangements may be made to import help
from cities of surplus. Possible areas of surplus are, Rochester, Buffalo, New York
and cities of Westchester County and Long Island.
4. In most country high schools, particularly those with agricultural depart-
ments placements will be handled directly by the local school people.
5. City boys and some girls from areas of surplus will be available to be placed
for all summer work up to October 1st on dairy and general farms.
6. During latter part of May and early June it is expected that as many as may
be needed up to 1000, selected city youth will be brought in groups of 40 to the six
state agricultural schools and the State College of Agriculture for a 7 to 10 day
conditioning period. These centers, Ithaca, Alfred, Canton, Cobleskill, Delhi,
Farmingdale, and Morrisville, will be supply deports during these periods. County
Agricultural Agents and Farm Placement Representatives of the counties served by
each of these centers should give particular attention to filling the needs of
their areas for this type of supplementary general farm work seasonal help.
7. Members of the faculty of the State Schools will assist the County Agents
and Farm Placement Representatives in placing these youth where needed. They will
also take responsibility for supervision during the period of employment.
8. In 15 to 18 counties in the eastern and northern parts of the state, a
representative of the schools of New York City, Westchester or Long Island will
be assigned to assist in placement of youth in supervising them during the period
of employment. The same plan may be followed in counties near larger cities up-
state if desired. In all cases the State School men and the city school men will
be cautioned to work in cooperation with the County Agricultural Agents and Farm
Placement Representatives.
9. In placing youth on individual farms for all summer work the following
should be observed
   (1) Placement should be only on farms where the standard of living is
       reasonably high.
   (2) The District Health Officer should be consulted in case of doubt of
       purity of water supply or sanitation.
   (3) Definite agreement should be signed by farmer and youth and approved
       by parent in advance, or mailed to parents for approval, covering
       wages, period of employment and other conditions.
(4) Wages should be adjusted to experience and abilities. Inexperienced youth should expect no more than $30 per month and living and those with previous experience should start at a higher wage.

(5) Transportation costs will be paid from FCVC fund when arrangements are made in advance from the home station to station near farm by train, bus or boat by travel order when distance is over 50 miles. Return costs will be provided for all who complete work agreements, or who are prevented from doing so from just cause.

10 For vegetable and fruit areas where large number of workers are needed for a concentrated area, camps for 50 or more boys or girls may be arranged.

(1) Camps may consist of former recreation camps, roadside cabins, wayside hotels when well located and conducted, trailer camps, FSA camps, large houses if well located and equipped, schools, local community houses, tent shelters.

(2) Each camp should be sponsored by a farmer or committee of farmers who will be responsible for local arrangements.

(3) All camps approved must be inspected by and approved by State Health Department concerning water supply, sanitation, commissary arrangements and management.

(4) Local committee must provide camp and equipment including quarters, cots or beds, mattresses, cooking and serving place and equipment.

(5) Campers will provide blankets and bedding.

(6) Local committee must provide for minimum amount of work weekly to cover board costs and pay prevailing piece work or hourly rates.

(7) Supervisor for each 40 to 50 in a camp group will be provided from FCVC fund.

(8) Transportation for camp groups will be furnished from FCVC fund when arrangements are made in advance for travel orders. Local committees are to handle transportation from station to camp and between camp and farms. Use of local school buses may well be considered.

(9) Preliminary arrangements for camp groups needed, should be made as far in advance as possible. Needs known by June 15th are much surer of being satisfactorily filled. Each County Agent and Farm Placement Representative should notify one of the following persons concerning prospective locations so that early visits may be made to consider arrangements with local farmer committees, T. N. Hurd, W. J. Weaver, J. P. King, S. R. Shapley.

(10) All camps in connection with which FCVC funds are to be used, must be approved for adequacy of arrangements by one of the above persons.

(11) In making arrangements with any organization for furnishing workers and handling camp supervision, arrangements made should consider the entire season's work problem and agreements made on that basis only.

11 In connection with groups transported daily between homes and farms, when supervision is desirable and group is organized under the direction of the County Agricultural Agents and Farm Placement Representative, per diem pay for such supervision will be cared for from the FCVC fund.