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1. Gradually increase production in line with consumption.

2. Give particular emphasis to quality.

3. Improve our export market situation as the program was intended and written to do.

II. The economic situation in every local community is dependent upon cotton and cannot suffer further decline in cotton income. Every effort should be made to regain a full cotton economy as consumption and exports will permit.

III. Those of us in agriculture would like for you to recognize the role we play in the labor market. Our peak labor requirements come during the summer months at which time school children, women, older people, and others not qualified for full time employment, and thus could not locate other employment, are used to help produce cotton. We want you to represent our interests in the Welfare and Labor Departments of the Government because an Agricultural economy contributes greatly to the opportunities of many people not directly involved in cotton production.

IV. Improvements needed in program:

A. Permit the use of skiprow planting without penalty.

B. Move more cotton through export trade.

V. Skip row planting would achieve the goals of the Department of Agriculture and the cotton producer.

A. Would tend to increase production to a level that seems economically necessary.

B. Would enable producers to carry out improved methods of soil and water conservation.

C. Would permit production of a better quality cotton.

D. Would tend to have a stabilizing effect on volume of production.

E. Would not increase the cost of the cotton program;

1. Any increase in production resulting from skiprow planting would not cause an increase in the cotton program, to be accomplished by adjusting payment rates to yield.

VI. We sincerely feel that the goals of the Department of Agriculture and the goals of the cotton producer have never been closer. We also are convinced that these goals can best be achieved through the elimination of penalties on the practice of skiprow and that no other changes are necessary at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

DAWSON COUNTY COTTON GROWERS.

TEXAS COTTONSEED CRUSHERS'

ASSOCIATION, INC.,

Dallas, Tex., September 6, 1967.

HON. ORVILLE FREEMAN,
Secretary of Agriculture,
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SECRETARY FREEMAN: In the opinion of the Texas Cottonseed Crushers' Association none of the alternate 1968 programs outlined by U.S.D.A. in the Texas Hearings will result in the production of sufficient cotton to meet domestic and export market demands for the coming year. The economics of cotton production are such that merely eliminating diversion payments will not induce farmers to plant the acreage needed.

We respectfully propose, therefore, that the domestic allotment be increased to 75% of effective allotment and that 12.5% mandatory diversion be retained to provide some assurance of adequate grower income.

Exports should be increased to minimum of 5,000,000 bales which is well below our fair historical share of the foreign markets.

We do not attempt to tell you how these things can be done, but we would suggest that the per acre yield used in calculating the domestic allotment be lowered to a more realistic level, and that the domestic consumption estimate be set at a higher figure consistent with the results expected from our new CPI program.

The 1968 year will stand out as the year

in which the U.S. cotton economy began its return to prosperity or the year in which it began a decline that led to poverty for many millions of people. No effort should be spared to prevent this latter possibility. Directors of the Texas Cottonseed Crushers' Association representing well over 1/3 of the total U.S. crushing capacity have voted unanimously for such a program and we will appreciate your earnest consideration of our views.

Yours very truly,

DIXON WHITE,
President.

LIFE INSURANCE INDUSTRY COMMITTS \$1 BILLION FOR CITIES

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, I was delighted to learn that Mr. Eugene Fitzhugh, president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., and chairman of the Urban Problems Committee of the American Life Insurance Association, has announced a new \$1 billion commitment by the Nation's life insurance industry to improve housing and to finance job-creating activities in urban areas. This is a new step that should be heralded by those who recognize the necessity for involving private enterprise in the job of rebuilding our core cities.

Also, this announcement clearly illustrates the need for supporting the rent supplement program. As noted by Mr. Fitzhugh, the rent supplement program offers the most promising avenue of participation by private enterprise. This announcement serves as an example of private enterprise's willingness to participate if Government programs encourage such participation.

Speaking today at a luncheon in New York City for top executives of New York City banks and savings and loan associations, Robert C. Wood, Under Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, gave details of this new billion-dollar commitment by the life insurance industry. So that my colleagues might read his statement I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a copy of the press release from Secretary Wood's office.

There being no objection, the press release was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Under Secretary Robert C. Wood gave details today of a new \$1 billion commitment by the nation's life insurance industry to President Johnson for investment in city core areas to improve housing and to finance job-creating activities. Mr. Wood explained this major effort at a luncheon in New York City for top executives of New York City banks and savings and loan associations. The White House had previously announced the program at an 11:30 conference led by Secretary Weaver of HUD and Mr. Eugene Fitzhugh, who is the President of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and Chairman of the Urban Problems Committee of the American Life Insurance Association.

This is another step, Mr. Wood noted, in the development of a systematic and coordinated approach to the solution of America's urban problems, an approach which began with the enactment of the rent supplement and Model Cities programs.

During the last six months, Mr. Wood announced, major progress has been made in the Administration's plan for designing federal programs to insure maximum involvement of the private sector. The already proven Turnkey method for construction of

low rent public housing has a new streamlined procedure allowing a developer to be designated quickly and reducing his risk. The Turnkey II effort, inaugurated on August 17, 1967, by President Johnson and Secretary Weaver, recognizes the profit element in *management* as well as construction of low income housing. In three cities, developers are already preparing private construction and *management projects*.

In New York City a 929-unit facility will be built by a private contractor and operated by a private management firm. Recently, Mr. Wood noted, HUD and SBA executed an agreement to aid the development of small businesses by encouraging the provision of commercial space in FHA 221(d)(3) projects. Another private involvement program, rent supplements, Mr. Wood noted, shows renewed promise with Senate Banking and Currency Committee's approval of a full appropriation.

In addition, a major new national program is underway, designed to make federal surplus land readily available to meet urban needs, especially in low and moderate income housing. The first site announced was a 335 acres formerly occupied by the National Training School in Washington.

The \$1 billion life insurance commitment will provide capital for projects that would not, because of risk and location, ordinarily be financed under normal business practices. The plan contemplates, at least at the outset, that investments will be made under provisions of existing governmental programs, particularly FHA mortgages or loans under state development authorities. The rent supplement program offers the best opportunity for such constructive action. It is the industry's intention to make loans at interest rates no higher than regular market rates for normal operations.

The industry believes that through the combined cooperation of Federal, state and local agencies and the companies participating in the plan, new ways may be found to improve the quality of urban life.

VIETNAM DISENCHANTMENT

Mr. HARTKE. Mr. President, recently the Lou Harris poll showed that a growing number of disenchanted Americans, 34 percent, favor getting out of Vietnam as soon as possible. Only a few more, 37 percent, expressed favor for the administration policy of fighting a limited war with negotiations as a goal. These, together with the smaller number favoring fighting on for total military victory, comprise a majority in the combined category of "support" for our Vietnam policy.

But that combined total of 61 percent needs to be set against the figure for a 6-weeks-earlier poll where the figure was 72 percent. The fact is inescapable that support for what we are doing in Vietnam is dropping, so far as the military action is concerned. It is indeed remarkable that there should be 34 percent now committed to the idea of getting out as soon as possible. Probably, with the results of the election now in, and with the lapse of time since the interviews, that figure is now even higher.

The Terre Haute Tribune, in its September 2 issue, commented editorially on this situation. I ask unanimous consent that the editorial be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: