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Resources for Teaching Fourth Grade History in California

World War II On the Home Front: Primary Source Documents

Bulletins distributed by the Office of Civil Defense

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WAR COUNCIL

SUBJECT: WAR JOBS AND HOW TO GET THEM
AUTHORITY: U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

If you have made buttonholes on a machine, you can spot-weld a plane bound for Berlin and take your place among the millions of American women on the labor front, the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The transition from buttonholes to aircraft is only one of those outlined in a study "What Job is Mine on the Victory Line?" Surveying the household duties and peacetime jobs in which women have been most proficient, the Women's Bureau of the Labor Department points out that a large number of these have provided skills easily transferrable to vital war industries.

Leaflet No. 1, "What Job is Mine on the Victory Line?" may be obtained free from the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C.

Index Card:
War Jobs and How To Get Them

May 31, 1943
(1) (A-B) Bulletin No. 708

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEFENSE COUNCIL
Health, Welfare, and Consumer Interest Committee

SUBJECT: "SALVAGE SCOUTS" WANTED

AUTHORITY: OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION - WAR PRODUCTION BOARD

Every Southern California resident has been asked to enlist as a voluntary "Salvage Scout" in the nation-wide search for scrap metal sources in abandoned mines, factories or equipment, according to dispatches received September 28th by the area War Production Board from regional executives.

The quest for "Salvage Scouts" among residents of Southland communities was launched by the Conservation Division of the War Production Board as part of a national campaign asking citizens to search out and report idle iron and steel structures and any large amounts of abandoned machinery or metal equipment, wherever they exist.

Emphasizing the special projects in conservation that will highlight the volunteer "Salvage Scouts," Lessing J. Rosenwald, Director of the WPB's Conservation Division in Washington, D.C., had this to say:

"Often we find a suggestion to the owner all that is necessary to start the metal moving to the mills. However, there may be need for public financing because the cost of removing the metal is often above its maximum selling price as scrap.

"We have a department known as the special projects section, whose specific job is to deal with all situations of this sort. Any person who knows of idle metal in any form is requested to send information concerning the nature, location, and if possible, the ownership of such equipment, to the Conservation Division at the War Production Board office in Los Angeles."

Index Cards:

"Salvage Scouts" Wanted

October 5 - 1942
(1) (A-B) GUIDE SHEET NO. 346

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEFENSE COUNCIL

SUBJECT: YOUTH TRAINING - FOR MESSINGERS IN CITIZENS DEFENSE CORPS

AUTHORITY: LOS ANGELES CITY DEFENSE COUNCIL

Beginning a training program to prepare large numbers of Los Angeles youths to serve in units of the city's Citizens Defense Corps as messengers, forty youth leaders will be groomed as instructors, at the Police Training Academy in Elysian Park.

Making use of the training facilities of the Police Department, the Defense Corps with the cooperation of the Council of Social Agencies plans to give basic instruction to leaders of all established youth groups so that they in turn may train boys and girls for the roles they can play in civilian defense.

In today's classes, designed as a tryout for the city-wide-plan, Boy Scout leaders will receive basic instruction to pass on to troupe leaders, who in turn teach the Scouts under their direction.

When fully developed, the training program of the Citizens Defense Corps will embrace youth leaders of all other recognized boy and girl agencies, the city schools and parochial schools, and the city playgrounds.

The Defense Corps has been operating with a lack of sufficient messengers to serve in control centers, air raid wardens' posts, casualty stations, and in the other essential units protecting civilian life and property.

Eventual plans call for training as messengers, thousands of boys and girls between 12 and 16 years of age, who will enroll with the consent of their parents through the youth groups to which they belong.

Index Card:

Youth Training - for
Messengers in Citizens
Defense Corps

February 8, 1943
(1) (A-B) BULLETIN 555

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEFENSE COUNCIL

SUBJECT: FOOD -- HELP GROW IT
AUTHORITY: OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

How much and how well the American people will eat in 1943 is largely up to them.

Military and other war demands have cut canned fruits and vegetables for civilians to less than half, as reflected in the newly announced point rationing shares. This shortage will drive more housewives to compete for fresh foods and possibly make these also harder to find. But, OWI added, there are at least two things civilians can do about it:

1. Join the U. S. Crop corps and work on farms, either full or part-time to grow and harvest more food.
2. Grow a Victory Garden on the farm or in the yard or vacant lot.

A crop corps of 3,500,000 volunteers is needed to take paid jobs, on the farms, because millions of farm workers have left to join the armed forces or take jobs in industry. The Corps will include city men and women and high school boys and girls who are willing to devote some of their time to farm work.

Victory Garden plans are already swinging into action all over the country. Civic organizations, publishers, defense councils, and other groups are sponsoring drives.

However, any number of people -- from one person-- up can constitute a Victory Garden campaign.

Owners of idle land or vacant lots are being asked to offer them for cultivation. In Richmond, Va., for example, a press campaign by the local defense council brought offers of 350 plots of land for community farming.

Index Cards:
Food -- Help Grow It

March 8, 1943
(1) (A-B) Bulletin No. 588