

Jehovah's Witnesses To Attend Meeting At Memorial Stadium In Baltimore, Md.

J. F. Cochran, presiding minister of Jehovah's Witnesses, will head a group of 8 delegates from the Magnolia Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses who will attend a five-day convention to be held August 21-25 at Memorial Stadium in Baltimore, Maryland.

The convention is sponsored by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, of Brooklyn, New York, directing agency for Jehovah's Witnesses. It is the largest of ten assemblies in North America this summer. A total attendance of 200,000 is anticipated, with 40,000 expected to meet in Baltimore.

The purpose of the meeting, said Mr. Cochran, is to provide additional Bible instruction for the Witnesses and to enable them to apply Bible principles more fully to their every-day lives and activities.

For this reason the program carries the theme of 'Life-Giving Wisdom!' There will be morning, afternoon and evening sessions devoted to Bible talks, discussions, and practical demonstrations, he explained.

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N. Carolina Selected by Research Center For Pilot Youth Program Study

The nation's first statewide mechanized farm shop program for 4-H youngsters began in Raleigh yesterday.

The program was announced jointly by L. R. Harrill, state 4-H leader for North Carolina, and Neil C. Hurley Jr., of Chicago, founder of the Thor Research Center for Better Farm Living at Marengo, Ill., and president of Thor Power Tool Company, sponsor of the project.

Hub of the pilot youth program, expected to serve as a pattern for similar 4-H activity in other states, will be a newly completed mechanized farm shop at the Millstone 4-H summer camp near Ellerbe, N. C., equipped by the Thor Research Center to meet the needs of a typical North Carolina farm.

North Carolina was selected for this pilot program because of the excellent national reputation of its 4-H leaders and members for tackling big, worthwhile projects and doing them well, said Mr. Hurley. 'It was that reputation that prompted us to invite Mr. Harrill to become a member of the new research center's advisory committee when it was formed less than a year ago.'

Mr. Harrill said that farm shop instruction at Camp Millstone will begin immediately and will be compulsory for all 4-H boy campers.

Cochran further reported that several members of the board of directors of the Watchtower Society, including Nathan H. Knerr, president, and Fred W. Franz, vice-president, will speak in Baltimore. Highlight of the convention will be the public address by Knerr at 3 p. m. Sunday, August 25 on 'Healing of the Nations Has Drawn Near.'

Because of the need for intensive training in a short time (each group spends only one week at summer camp), farm shop classes will be 90 minutes long.

'We will consider the program worthwhile if we do nothing more than give our rural youth a broad view of the role of modern shop in farm work,' he said.

'If we can create in their minds the need for an adequate shop on their own farm back home — to help them make a better living and to live better after they make that living — then we will have made real progress.'

The Thor Research Center 4-H shop at Camp Millstone also will be available for intensive shop courses for special students after the regular summer camp closes, Mr. Harrill said. The pattern for such activity already has been set at the North Carolina summer camps where special post-camp courses are regularly offered in forestry and wild life.

The shop also will be available for tours and demonstrations for various agricultural groups which schedule off-season meetings at the camp site.

Statewide competitions among 4-Hers in farm shop projects and demonstrations are a proposed second phase of the pilot program in North Carolina. Mr. Harrill announced. These probably will not begin until next year, after there has been an opportunity to establish shop facilities at the other three state summer camps.

'What they see and learn in the camp shop will be the stimulus for the competitions which will begin back home in their local clubs,' he said.

Any program to be successful must be based on need and we know there is real need for this program,' Mr. Harrill stated.

'We must educate our farm youngsters in modern power methods of farm maintenance or bear the responsibility for their failure in the intensely scientific and mechanized farming of tomorrow.'

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With

Clinton Davidson



President Eisenhower added fuel to the already hot farm program controversy by his decision to continue

with Ezra Taft Benson as his Secretary of Agriculture.

The Secretary has both strong supporters and sharp critics because of his insistence on lowering price supports and reduction of farmer dependence on government programs.

Congressional and farm critics have denounced him bitterly because farm prices and income have declined steadily in recent years. They contend that his program has failed and, if continued, would wreck agriculture.

President Eisenhower has continued to be one of Benson's staunchest supporters. Benson went to the White House not long ago with an offer to resign, but Mr. Eisenhower talked him out of it.

The decision to keep Benson means that farm and congressional groups will be divided into two hostile camps when farm legislation is taken up by Congress next year. A long bitter fight is probable.

The Secretary, backed by the powerful Farm Bureau, and a minority of Farm Bloc congressmen, will seek modifications in present farm laws. The main objective will be to get legislation permitting lower price supports.

Farmer cooperatives and the National Grange, backed by a majority of Farm Bloc congressmen, will seek a major overhauling of present programs, with primary emphasis on commodity programs, including two-price plans and marketing agreements.

Benson will have the big advantage of the President back of him. He has reason to expect that Mr. Eisenhower would veto any program not in line with his thinking. That happened in 1955, when a high price support bill was vetoed.

Mr. Eisenhower gave Secretary Benson added backing when he sent the nomination of Dr. Donald Paarlberg to the Senate to be Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. Dr. Paarlberg, a former college professor, has been chief economic advisor to Benson since early 1953.

Dr. Paarlberg drew fire from critics of Benson's farm program when, in a speech, he told farmers that 'parity was a "dream world" they should never expect to see again.'

Farm income has declined by 30% during four years of Benson's farm program administration. He contends that this was unavoidable because of huge surpluses built up under the previous administration.

Critics, on the other hand, charge him with following a policy of lower supports that resulted in lower prices. They say his only proposal is that Congress give him authority to put into effect still lower price supports next year.

About all you can be certain of is that Benson will occupy one of the hottest spots in Washington during the next 18 months.



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