NUTRITION EDUCATION

... Agricultural Extension on the move

A mobile campus, complete with trained nutritionists, exhibits, slides, music, and handout materials is taking food information to underprivileged families in low income areas of California. The University of California Agricultural Extension Service—faced with a new clientele that could not, and probably would not, come to the University for help—converted a war surplus bus into a mobile educational unit that goes from community to community with information on the Expanded Nutrition Education Program (ENEP) in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. The large blue and white bus, equipped with show windows, awnings and lounge areas, goes to food market parking lots, fairs, celebrations and meetings to serve as a means of attracting attention and to provide a conversation opener for the local program assistants assigned to the bus and their friends and neighbors who can profit from suggestions on how to “eat better for less money.” In its first year, the bus has traveled as far south as the Mexican border taking information to black, white, Spanish-American and Indian families in a people-to-people program to improve family living.

DAIRY WASTE DISPOSAL

Soil and water science specialists are evaluating beneficial and detrimental effects of the present system of dairy waste disposal as they relate to nitrate and salt concentrations in underground waters.

BIO CONTROL OF WEEDS

Biological control experts at the Gill Tract in Berkeley plan to expand the search for insect predators of bindweed, yellowstar thistle, and Russian knapweed to Mediterranean and Eurasian areas. If found, the predators will be raised and tested on weeds and economic plants in California and throughout the U. S. Economic plants are tested to insure that the insects will damage only the weeds.

AGRICULTURAL POLLUTION

Agricultural engineers at Davis are studying ways and means of controlling pollution of air, water and soil caused by formerly acceptable practices employed by farmers and stockmen.

RESEARCH PREVIEWS

A continuing program of research in many aspects of agriculture is carried on at University campuses, field stations, leased areas, and many temporary plots loaned by cooperating landowners throughout the state. Listed below are some of the projects currently under way, but on which no formal progress reports can yet be made.

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE

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