

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FUNCTIONS

By Executive Order No. 9069 of February 23, 1942, six research bureaus, the Office of Experiment Stations, and the Agricultural Research Center were consolidated into an Agricultural Research Administration to be administered by an officer designated by the Secretary of Agriculture. The constituent bureaus and agencies of the Administration have, in practice, retained their separate identity. This consolidation and certain transfers of functions between the constituent bureaus and agencies have all been recognized and provided for in the subsequent appropriation acts passed by the Congress.

By the plan the functions of the eight research bureaus and agencies which are presently consolidated into the Agricultural Research Administration are transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture to be performed by him or under his direction and control by such officers or agencies of the Department of Agriculture as he may designate.

The benefits which have been derived from centralized review, coordination, and control of research projects and functions by the Agricultural Research Administrator have amply demonstrated the lasting value of this consolidation. By transferring the functions of the constituent bureaus and agencies to the Secretary of Agriculture, it will be possible to continue this consolidation and to make such further adjustments in the organization of agricultural research activities as future conditions may require. This assignment of functions to the Secretary is in accord with the sound and long-established practice of the Congress of vesting substantive functions in the Secretary of Agriculture rather than in subordinate officers or agencies of the Department.

CREDIT UNION FUNCTIONS

The plan makes permanent the transfer of the administration of Federal functions with respect to credit unions to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. These functions, originally placed in the Farm Credit Administration, were transferred to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation by Executive Order No. 9148 of April 27, 1942. Most credit unions are predominantly urban institutions, and the credit-union program bears very little relation to the functions of the Farm Credit Administration. The supervision of credit unions fits in logically with the general bank supervisory functions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation since 1942 has successfully administered the credit-union program, and the supervision of credit-union examiners has been integrated into the field and departmental organization of the Corporation. In the interests of preserving an organizational arrangement which operates effectively and economically, the program should remain in its present location.

WAR ASSETS ADMINISTRATION

The present organization for the disposal of surplus property is the product of 2½ years of practical experience. Beginning with the Surplus Property Board in charge of general policy and a group of agencies designated by it to handle the disposal of particular types of property, the responsibility for most of the surplus disposal has gradually been drawn together in one agency—the War Assets Administration—headed by a single Administrator. Experience has demonstrated the desirability of centralized responsibility in administering this most difficult program.

The reorganization plan will continue the centralization of surplus disposal functions in a single agency headed by an Administrator. This is accomplished by transferring the functions, personnel, property, records, and funds of the War Assets Administration created by Executive order to the statutory Surplus Property Administration. In order to avoid confusion and to maintain the continuity of operations, the name of the Surplus Property Administration is changed to War Assets Administration.

Because the plan combines in one agency, not only the policy functions now vested by statute in the Surplus Property Administrator, but also the immense disposal operations now concentrated in the temporary War Assets Administration, I have found it necessary to provide in the plan for an Associate War Assets Administrator, also appointed by the President with the approval of the Senate. It is essential that there be an officer who can assist the Administrator in the general management of the agency and who can take over the direction of its operations in case of the absence or disability of the Administrator or of a vacancy in his office.

HARRY S. TRUMAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 1, 1947.

REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 2 OF 1947

Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1947, which proposed to permanently transfer the United States Employment Service to the Department of Labor, to transfer functions of the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division to the Secretary of Labor, and to authorize the Secretary of Labor to coordinate administration of the acts for regulation of wages and hours on Federal public works, was submitted to Congress on May 1, 1947, and was disapproved by Congress on June 30, 1947.

REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 3 OF 1947

Eff. July 27, 1947, 12 F.R. 4981, 61 Stat. 954

Prepared by the President and transmitted to the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled May 27, 1947, pursuant to the provisions of the Reorganization Act of 1945, approved December 20, 1945.

HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY

SECTION 1. HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY

The Home Owners' Loan Corporation, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, the Federal Housing Administration, the United States Housing Authority, the Defense Homes Corporation, and the United States Housing Corporation, together with their respective functions, the functions of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and the other functions transferred by this plan, are consolidated, subject to the provisions of sections 2 to 5, inclusive, hereof, into an agency which shall be known as the Housing and Home Finance Agency. There shall be in said Agency constituent agencies which shall be known as the Home Loan Bank Board, the Federal Housing Administration, and the Public Housing Administration.

SEC. 2. HOME LOAN BANK BOARD

(a) The Home Loan Bank Board shall consist of three members appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Not more than two members of the Board shall be members of the same political party. The President shall designate the members of the Board first appointed hereunder to serve for terms expiring, respectively, at the close of business on June 30, 1949, June 30, 1950, and June 30, 1951, and thereafter the term of each member shall be four years. Whenever a vacancy shall occur among the members the person appointed to fill such vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the member whose place he is selected to fill. Each of the members of the Board shall receive compensation at the rate of \$10,000 per annum.

(b) The President shall designate one of the members of the Home Loan Bank Board as Chairman of the Board. The Chairman shall (1) be the chief executive officer of the Board, (2) appoint and direct the personnel necessary for the performance of the functions of the Board or of the Chairman or of any agency under the Board, and (3) designate the order in which the other members of the Board shall, during the absence or disability of the Chairman, be Acting Chairman and perform the duties of the Chairman.