

## Freeman Urges Leadership Role For 4-H

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman last week challenged young people to take a leadership role in meeting the problems of world hunger abroad and revitalization of rural areas in the United States.

He spoke at the 46th National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

Commending the involvement of U.S. 4-H Clubs in the War on Hunger, the Agriculture Secretary said, "Yet I would challenge you to do even more, to give even more of yourselves to this humanitarian—and deep-

ly practical—effort. If enough of you do this, I have no doubt future historians will write of your generation, 'This was the age that abolished hunger from the face of the earth.'"

The second great challenge facing young people, Freeman said, was revitalization of rural America.

"Today," he said, "70 percent of our people are crowded into just one percent of our land. A majority of our population—more than a hundred million—live in and around the 224 largest cities, which are growing at a rate three times that of non-metropolitan areas."

"By the year 2000, 300 million Americans will live on the same number of square miles that 200 million live on today.

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If present trends are not reversed, 80 percent of these new Americans will live in and around the great cities, in conditions of incredible congestion and pollution."

He noted that "177 young men in rural America now reach working age for every 100 rural jobs opening up." New jobs will have to be created, he said, and along with them, "the quality schools, technical training, recreation facilities . . . housing and medical care that new industry requires before locating in a rural community."

Meeting the challenge of world hunger and rural-urban population balance, he said, "is not primarily a technical prob-

lem, it is a social, political and human problem.

"We know how to grow enough food to feed a world population many times present size. We have the technology to revitalize rural America. We have the resources to provide every American with a decent living and a quality diet . . . but do we have the will? Do we have the skill to use the know-how?"

"This is a human, not a technical equation, and it is the greatest question of our time."

An excellent way to knock the chip off your neighbor's shoulder is to pat him on the back.

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