Ex-Acadiana Neuf Director Endorses County Agents

Roland Hubert, former director of Acadiana Neuf, told a Louisiana committee of legislators in Lafayette this week that the lot of the small farmer would have been improved more effectively and permanently through county agents instead of the cooperative program advanced by the war on poverty advocates.

Market prices for potatoes established nationally by demand are relatively high in the nation this year, Herbert illustrated.

Duplicated Claimed

The former director said that Ray Albert, McKnight, John Zipper and Marion White maintained that the county agents were not doing their jobs. Herbert disagreed with this point of view and held that the poverty plan initiated in the area attempted to duplicate the already existing services to small farmers. He also said that county agents from six parishes conducted a seminar in St. Landry for the anti-poverty group.

Sweet Potato Alert obtained a $49,000 allocation for an educational project that led to formation of Grand Marie Vegetable Producers Cooperative. The coop made a $49,000 Farmers Home Administration loan. An application for a $257,000 OBO loan for the second phase of the potato alert undertaking is pending. Herbert thought the $49,000 could have been expended by county agents for small farmers more effectively.

Hubert said that ten men on a job application screening committee for the Schooner Bay operation hired themselves.