IT GIVES me great pleasure to extend to you today the welcome of the Department of State. After having first been introduced to the judiciary you are now meeting with representatives of the executive branch in which the Department of State is the oldest agency. As you know, with the Congress, our legislative branch, these three pillars of the United States Government guard, in competitive union and in jealous responsibility the tenets of our Constitution.

It is the particular responsibility of the Department of State, of the Auswärtige Amt (Foreign Affairs Office), to perform its part of this common task in what today has become perhaps the most delicate, the most difficult and possibly the most decisive field of political action, namely, the field of foreign or international relations. The record of the United States in the field of international relations may seem brief to Europeans. It is, in fact, the history of a young people who, in years gone by, have regarded it a more urgent task to put their own house in order, rather than seeking contact and gain, in traffic with other peoples.

However, in the past decade great changes have occurred in the traditional thinking of the American people. Technological progress, political change and the wisdom that comes from hard and deep personal experience has widened the frame of United States policy and has buried forever that feeling of fake security which, in former years, has been the backbone of the policy of isolation. Today, the United States, with its own house resting on firm foundations, is helping build many houses in other countries.

RECONSTRUCTION HAS become a "Leitmotiv" of United States action abroad. Aside from political and economic considerations which have determined and will always determine the course of international relations, United States foreign policy today is imbued with a social purpose—a purpose which in the words of a great American of our century is predicated on "the chance to help create a new society in which men and women the world around can live and grow, invigorated by independence and freedom." It is to the protection of this freedom from wanton interference, oppression and attack that the foreign policy of the United States is dedicated today.

You, who are the delegates of the German law profession, have a permanent opportunity to observe the effects of the policy of reconstruction in your daily life. You will now have an additional opportunity to meet the men and women in the United States who make, execute and support this policy.

The very fact that you are sitting here with us today is another manifestation of this policy. The exchange of persons, of skills and of knowledge with other peoples is part of a new foreign policy which believes that international relations are not merely conducted on the level of high diplomacy but likewise, and in increasing measure, in day-by-day contacts of people with people.

IN THE COMING year a large number of your compatriots will reap the benefits of this development. The policy of the United States Government and the active interest of American citizens will make it possible for Germans of various ages and in many walks of life to come to the United States, to study, to observe and to learn, as we say colloquially, what makes this country "tick."

You will find many answers to your questions. But you will also see a great likeness and cohesion among the many elements that make up this democracy of ours. If you study us, with care and without bias, you may be able to discover the truth in the definition of a great living American that "democracy is the only way, rough as that way may be, to a civilization that adequately respects and thereby helps to unfold the richness of human diversity."

It is our hope that you, and those of your fellow citizens who will follow you to the United States, will derive a full measure of satisfaction from your visit. We are certain that the exchange program can be successful and beneficial to both of our countries, if the selection of visitors is a wise one and if it is made in accordance with the high principles of an enlightened forward-looking policy which places human values above all other considerations.

Although the program is larger than any similar program ever undertaken...
by this government, it has its limits. Within these limits, preference must be given to those who are today in a position of political, social or professional leadership or who will be called upon to assume leadership in days to come. That places the accent on youth. While due credit must be given to scholastic merit, we believe that scholarship alone is not a qualification sufficient by itself. Equal, if not more, emphasis must be laid on the individual’s ability and willingness to use his intellectual talents to the welfare of the community as a whole. Those who have contributed sincerely to the democratic reconstruction of their homeland, have a right to expect that their contribution will be recognized and that they will be helped in their efforts to continue their work.

Undoubtedly, the German lawyer has a right to be counted among those who by virtue of their position and function will play a large part in the rebuilding of the German community. The sincerity and the success of Germany’s return to a normal and healthy political life and of sound and peaceful relation with other nations will be judged, by many Americans, by the way in which justice will be administered in Germany and by whom. It was the collapse of justice that prepared and sealed the doom of the German Republic. Nothing but a society in which the cause of justice is served, without fear or favor, by free, independent men and women can hope to achieve duration and will find the recognition of other free and independent people.

It is my wish and the wish of my colleagues that your visit to the United States will benefit you and your American colleagues with whom you will come in contact, that it will help pave the way for better understanding and continuing contact between you and them, and that it will provide you with some of the tools which will help you, upon your return, build the kind of democratic society in which we all will be happy and proud to live.

Exhibition depicting activities of German Youth self-help organization (Jugend- aulbauwerk) was held at Grand Hotel, Bad Nauheim, recently in cooperation with the Education and Cultural Relations Division, Office of Public Affairs, HICOG. Attendance by old and young alike was excellent. (FRD, HICOG photo)

(Continued from page 36)

Agricultural Extension

which devote at least seven months to agricultural advisory work.

In early summer, large well-planned demonstrations of labor-saving methods in planting potatoes were conducted cooperatively throughout Wurttemberg-Baden by the ministry of agriculture and the Extension Service. Home economics extension workers and home economics teachers in the various winter schools also held a short course on fuel saving and proper utilization, design of heating equipment and practical demonstrations on stove repair. German women on the farm not only must care for the house and family but also must spend many hours in the fields. It is essential that they be taught all possible labor-saving methods.

With results developing so favorably, the minister of agriculture approved the continuation of the demonstration counties for another year. The ministry is anxious that efforts be intensified to effect a genuine coordination and integration of this program with that of the winter schools carrying out agricultural advisory work done by the ministry.

Integration will be difficult, however, as the winter schools are old, well-established institutions with many friends and have done creditable work. Naturally, some of their leaders look upon Extension Service’s “grass roots approach” with foreboding.

From the first it has been the wish to “extend” the already existing program, and this approach will be continued with tact and good will. It is not the plan to duplicate or compete. Instead, the basic aims of developing rural leadership and community cooperation through better living methods will go forward on a cooperative basis.

RIAS Only US Station

As the sole remaining US-managed station in Germany, RIAS services the city of Berlin as a medium of information and discussion and as a means for Western Berlin leaders to express the democratic point of view to the population of the divided city. In addition, RIAS functions as the outlet for US statements and special programs to the German people throughout the US-occupied area and also provides facilities for relay of special “Voice of America” German-language programs to the Eastern Zone of Germany.