

Food Stamp Plan Will Start Here About May First

Food Stamps, when the U. S. Department of Agriculture's plan is extended to Valley county the first of May will be handled on a mail order basis according to an announcement made today by Albert Lee, Commissioner of Public Assistance and Donald A. Fareed, District Supervisor of the Surplus Marketing Administration.

All families receiving public assistance will be eligible to purchase food stamps after they have been declared eligible by their county welfare supervisor. Records already in the offices of the welfare departments permit making up the list of eligibles without requiring a personal interview.

"Upon completion of the list of eligibles," declared Lee, "detailed information will be sent each family. How the plan operates, what needs to be done to buy food stamps by mail—all this will be carefully ex-

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Purpose of the plan is to move over-abundant crops into the homes of underconsuming families. For every dollars' worth of orange colored food stamps, good for any and all foods for human consumption, stamp plan participants receive fifty cents free in the form of blue surplus food stamps. The blue stamps are good only to purchase those foods which are designated as "in surplus" by the Secretary of Agriculture.

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Stamps are used in the same manner as cash at any food store which wishes to accept stamps. Such stores must be approved by the Surplus Marketing Administration which redeems the stamps for payment to the retailer by the U. S. Treasury. It is found that most retailers turn their stamps over to wholesalers as payments on account.

The inauguration of the Food Stamp Plan eliminates direct distribution of surplus commodities through depots and by truck.

On the surplus food list at the present time are: Butter, raisins, pork, pork lard, corn meal, eggs, Irish potatoes, fresh oranges, apples, carrots and grapefruit, onions (except green onions), dried prunes, hominy grits, dry edible beans, wheat flower and whole wheat (graham flour.)