

Guided Inquiry Example

6TH-8TH

**STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA**
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS**
TEACHING
WITH PRIMARY
SOURCES

Example of Guided Inquiry

To understand how to use the following resources as part of a guided inquiry, see the [Guided Inquiry](#) document.

Topic: Agriculture in a Global World

Compelling Question: How has agriculture in the American Midwest evolved over time?

Background Information:

For thousands of years, Iowa's rich soil has supported many different people who have called "the land between two rivers" home. Native American women planted corn, beans and squash in carefully cultivated gardens along Iowa's rivers. When the sweet corn ripened in early August, the tribe celebrated. For the Meskwaki in Tama County, it was called the "the Green Corn Dance" and later became the starting point for the tribe's famous pow wow. Iowa's First Settlers Profit from Farmland The eastern United States is mostly covered in forests. Pioneers moving westward knew how to carve out farms among the trees but did not have experience on the treeless Iowa prairies which covered 85 percent of central and western Iowa. They needed to learn how to plow up for the first time the tough roots that held the soil in place. The first settlers often planted wheat as their primary cash crop but discovered that corn was more profitable. While it was hard to market bulky wagon loads of grain, corn could be fed to hogs which could be driven to markets or butchered in the winter and transported frozen on sleds. Meat brought a better price than the grain itself. In the second half of the 19th century, 1850 to 1900, Iowa farmers experience the rural side of the Industrial Revolution. John Deere, an Illinois blacksmith, invented a steel plow that would clean off the sticky prairie soil, unlike earlier iron plows that clogged and had to be scraped frequently. Horses replaced oxen as a source of power with the invention of new machinery. Hay rakes, mowers, corn planters and multi-row plows allowed one farmer to cultivate more acres than ever before. Production skyrocketed. When barbed wire allowed farmers to keep their animals contained, they began to import purebred livestock from Europe. They held fairs to compare their efforts in quality seed and animals. Refrigerated railroad cars permitted beef and pork to be slaughtered in Iowa and shipped to the growing cities of the east. Science Propels Agricultural Practices Forward.

After WWI (1917-1918), the gasoline engine began to make its way onto the farm to replace horses as the primary source of power. Tractors did not need to be fed when they were not working nor did farms have to devote fields to the cultivation of oats. Tractors came in larger and larger sizes and could plow and harvest fields much faster than horses could. At the same time, scientists began to promote the advantages of hybrid seed to produce bigger and better crops. Iowa-born Henry Wallace, later to become secretary of agriculture and vice president, was a co-founder of Pioneer Hybrid Seed that helped boost corn production across the Midwest. Iowa State University was a leader in the development of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers and teaching farmers how to use them that also contributed to a major boost in Iowa farm production. The ISU Extension Service placed a farm specialist and home economist in every Iowa county to make the entire state a classroom and to improve farm life. Beginning in the 1960s, science jumped to a new level with new discoveries in genetics. Until then, farming had always been about improving the surroundings in which a plant grew — insuring adequate sunlight and water, eliminating weeds and improving the quality of the soil. Genetic engineering was something new.

Example of Guided Inquiry

It went into the plant itself and gave it new directions on how to grow and to resist disease. Iowa's Norman Borlaug took the new agriculture improvements to impoverished nations around the world. He was a leader of what has been called "the Green Revolution" to increase the world's food supply. His work is estimated to have saved the lives of one billion people from starvation. In 1970, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Farm Families Decline in the Late 20th, Early 21st Century Agriculture has faced many problems with these new developments. His work is estimated to have saved the lives of one billion people from starvation. In 1970, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Farm Families Decline in the Late 20th, Early 21st Century Agriculture has faced many problems with these new developments. In the 20th century, 1900 to 1999, farmers could often produce more than the market could sell at a satisfactory price, and surpluses developed. When prices plunged as a result, farmers planted even more to maintain their incomes, creating even bigger surpluses. The federal government in the 1930s instituted programs to try to keep up prices for those farmers that would agree to reduce their production. In both WWI and WWII, farmers were encouraged to produce as much as they could to support the U.S. and its allies. Adjusting to peacetime created problems both times in the post-war world. Demand for farm products was strong in the 1970s, and once again, farmers geared up for top production. They borrowed money to buy larger equipment and paid more money to buy more land. In 1980, farm and farmland prices collapsed suddenly and many farmers could not meet their financial obligations. Many of them lost their farms. The small-town banks around the state that had lent them money also felt hard times. Many of them filed for bankruptcy. Merchants in small towns saw their sales drop, and many were forced to close their doors. The early years of the 1980s were called the "Farm Crisis," the worst times Iowa had experienced since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Since the first wave of new machinery in the late 1800s, farms have grown in size and the number of farms has decreased. Many rural Iowa counties had their highest population figures in the early 20th century, and have witnessed a gradual decline ever since. Losing students, rural schools were forced to consolidate into larger districts. Farm representation in the Iowa Legislature, once dominating everything else, was forced to yield seats to the growing urban cities.

On the other hand, the growth in numbers of families living in the country who are not farmers has grown. With good roads, cities now attract daily commuters from surrounding counties and beyond, blurring the lines between urban and rural. By any measure, however, Iowa agriculture is a power force in the economy and in the source of food for a hungry world.

Sources with Transcripts:

Source 1: "The Crop Outlook" Newspaper Article, June 30, 1906

Source 2: "1913 Farm Crops and their Value" Newspaper Article, May 14, 1914

Source 3: 1923 Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev Visits Iowa, September 23, 1959

Source 4: Iowa Hog Lift to Japan, 1960

Source 5: "Food for Freedom" Church Women United Letter, 1966

Source 6: S.2250: Congressional Tribute to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006, December 14, 2006

"The Crop Outlook" Newspaper Article, June 30, 1906

SATURDAY, June 30, 1906.

Our Closing Out Sale

Fancy Salads, Fancy Plates, Fancy Lamps, all going at cost.

Get one of those Fancy Cups and Saucers while they last.

Graniteware, Tinware and House-furnishings of all kinds.

A. M. STEWART & CO.

116 East Main Street

BRYAN IS ENDORSED

WISCONSIN DEMOCRATS DECLARE FOR A REVISION OF THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF

POPULISTS IN SESSION

Issue Address to the American People
—Pennsylvania Democrats Push With the Lincoln Republican—
Democrats and Independents Hold-ing State Conventions in Vermont

Winnipeg, June 28.—The democratic platform as prepared by the committee on resolutions after an all night session strongly endorses Bryan as the democratic candidate for president in 1916. Among other things the platform declares:

The enforcement of the statute against all trusts, combinations and monopolies.

Against a revision of the present tariff.

Selection of United States senators by direct vote.

Government control and regulation of all public service corporations.

On state matters the report favors law conferring upon municipalities the power to regulate public service corporations, favors a two cents per mile maximum passenger railroad rate, and taxation on an ad valorem basis and expenditure to the primary election law.

Two Vermont Conventions.

Burlington, Vt., June 28.—This city today was the scene of two state conventions. One was the democratic party and the other was the republican party.

Address of the Populists.

St. Louis, Mo., June 28.—The report of the committee on the national committee of the Populist party, which was adopted unanimously.

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THE CROP OUTLOOK

DIRECTOR BASE CLAIMS THE CONDITIONS ARE MOST FAVORABLE

Rains Are Beneficial—Early Haying Has Already Been Begun by Farmers—Says Corn Crop Will Be an Average Height by July 1.

The report of the crop surveyor has been made this week by Director Bailey. He declares that the general conditions are most favorable for the crop.

Complication of dry weather was allayed by the general showers that refreshed vegetation in all districts of the state in the early part of the week.

The annual report made from light to heavy rain, was no less favorable for the crop.

Director Bailey says that the conditions are most favorable for the crop.

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THE OTTUMWA COURIER

For over 24 years past I have been "aggregating the Gospel" that the laborer is worthy of his hire in the widest and noblest way. I applied in the proper way, put the law in force of effect. My conviction of 14 years ago grows stronger as witnesses the smaller number of such men sold over by year. If you must have a silly rule I have them. Come in and see the rule. Bladder Tonic, Mower Repair.

BOTH PHONES 664.

NO. 205-211 West Main St.

JAS. H. SHEPHERD.

"New Shepherd's Ranch."

OTTUMWA, IOWA.

SAID THAT MRS. THAW WILL NOT GIVE EVIDENCE BEFORE GRAND JURY

CORONER'S INQUEST

Edge Director Lawrence Tells Story of Shooting—Mrs. Thaw Refused Permission to Accompany Her Husband to Inquest and Sit by His Side

—Thaw Has Retained Night.

New York, June 28.—Mrs. Thaw refused today to accompany her husband to the inquest into the shooting of her husband.

She said that she would not give evidence before the grand jury.

The grand jury returned an indictment against Mrs. Thaw.

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Tools for Hard Work

Hold a Keen Kutter Saw in working position, and see how it fits the hand. Look along the blade—how thin the teeth are, how perfectly it is ground and honed. Bend it to your own hand, and it will follow the curve of your hand. Strike it and hear it ring. Try it on a difficult cut—it will work fast and clean. This is but one of the virtues.

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KEEN KUTTER

ILLINOIS CENTRAL

Is the Direct Line From St. LOUIS to the SOUTH

Books on—
New Orleans, Vicksburg, Cuba, Hammond, La., about the South, Locations for industries mailed by request.

S. G. HATCH. C. C. McCARTY.

P. A. Chicago. D. P. A. St. Louis.

The Ottumwa

Cut Stone Co.

Rustic Work Made to Order.

Dr. WM. HANSELL

Office over the New York, 118 Main street, Ottumwa.

MASS HILL.

Looking after business matters here for the past several days.

Mass Hill.

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"1913 Farm Crops and their Value" Newspaper Article, May 14, 1914

No Need Being Old or Wrinkled Before 75

There is no need of being old or wrinkled before 75. The secret of youthfulness is in the blood. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People will build up the blood, and with it the system. It will give you the strength and vitality of youth. It will make you look and feel like a young man or woman. It will give you the power to do all the work of a young man or woman. It will give you the ability to enjoy life to the full. It will give you the power to resist all the attacks of disease. It will give you the power to live to the full. It will give you the power to be happy. It will give you the power to be successful. It will give you the power to be a man or a woman of the world.

Get Your House Wired

Electric Light is the cheapest and cleanest light you can get.

Special Reduced Prices During Month of May

Call and see us or phone 142.

BUCHANAN-BOUGHTON CO.

20 North Center St.

Ants in the Pantry?

Are in the pantry? Are all over the house? You can get them easily and properly by the use of

MAGIC HOODOO ANT PAPER

It gives absolute relief. Use it and you will see the ants disappear.

PRICE IS ONE CENT

Phone 118 For Your Drug Store

WE DELIVER FREE

Peter Mayer & Son

215 QUALITY DRUG STORE

117 W. Main St., Marshalltown, Ia.

Footwear

For Every Member of the Family

It is made right, has the style, and your size is here to be fitted by our competent salesmen who know how to give shoe or oxford satisfaction. When you walk think of Wallace Shoes.

Wallace Shoe Store

E. K. McConnell, Proprietor

1913 FARM CROPS AND THEIR VALUE

ASSESSORS' STATISTICS SHOW VALUE OF PRODUCTS OF FARMS OF THE COUNTY.

TILLED LAND YIELDED CROPS WORTH \$2,858,971

Value of 1913 Farm Products Worth \$2,858,971 More Than Crops of 1912—Small Grain and Cereals Were Less, But Higher Cows and Dams Market Helped.

Marshall county has had what tilled produced crops worth \$2,858,971 in 1913, a more valuable crop by \$167,137 than the 1912 crop, in spite of short corn and male crop and smaller yields of other small grains. Cows with heavier yield, the much higher market value of the 1913 crop of corn and oats and farm products of the year have a great deal to do with the increase. The 1913 crop of 1913 with the corresponding increase in value of the crops.

There are some of the summarized statistics from the assessed crop reports, made by the assessors this year, which show the increase in value of the crops. They are the only statistics of this kind available, and are therefore of value in comparing the crops of 1913 with the corresponding crops of 1912.

Small Grain, Higher Prices—The 1913 crop of small grain was worth \$1,100,000 more than the 1912 crop. This was due to the increase in the price of small grain. The 1913 crop of small grain was worth \$1,100,000 more than the 1912 crop. This was due to the increase in the price of small grain.

Comparative Value of Farm Crops of the County For Years 1913 and 1912

Farm Crops—	1913	1912	Increase Decrease
Corn	\$1,100,000	\$1,000,000	\$100,000
Oats	500,000	450,000	50,000
Wheat	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Barley	50,000	60,000	-10,000
Rye	20,000	30,000	-10,000
Small grain	1,770,000	1,660,000	110,000
Hay	1,000,000	900,000	100,000
Alfalfa	50,000	60,000	-10,000
Produce	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Cattle	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Horses	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Poultry	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Swine	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Dairy	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Other	100,000	120,000	-20,000
Total	\$2,858,971	\$2,691,834	\$167,137

Comparative Live Stock Report of the County For the Years 1913 and 1912

Live Stock and Poultry—	1913	1912	Increase Decrease
Cattle	10,000	12,000	-2,000
Horses	5,000	6,000	-1,000
Swine	10,000	12,000	-2,000
Poultry	10,000	12,000	-2,000
Dairy	10,000	12,000	-2,000
Other	10,000	12,000	-2,000
Total	45,000	52,000	-7,000

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY SPECIAL

AT

Gildner Bros

Another shipment of pants just arrived, similar to the ones we sold several weeks ago at \$1.69. These pants run in grey, brown, tan and plain blue colors, all sizes from 32 to 46 waist and are worth up to \$3.00 per pair, none less than \$2.25. Some are made for cuff bottom, with trimmed belt loops, others regular.

Remember this is another one of the big bargains made possible by our chain store system of buying.

For the above dates, same price as before

\$1.69

Get To Know Us

Iowa's Largest Clothiers

Colonial Pumps

The season's most beautiful creations come in patent, gun metal and white.

\$2.50 to \$3.00

Mary Jane Pumps

A handsome and comfortable low heel pump. Comes in patent gun metal and white.

\$3.00

Why Suffer With Corns, Blisters, Aches and Pains?

When you can have comfort by wearing Gildner's soft shoes for tender feet? Try a pair today.

\$2.50 to \$5.00

LARSON & SON

THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES

Times-Republican, Marshalltown, Iowa: May 14, 1914.

Crops of the County, Land Tilled, Yields Per Acre 1913-'12, and Value of the Harvest of Last Year

Below will be found a comprehensive comparative table of the crops and average of the county for the years 1912 and 1913, compiled from statistics gathered by the assessors this year. The table shows the increase or decrease of each crop for the years 1912 and 1913, the average yield per acre for each crop for the years 1912 and 1913, the average value per acre for each crop for the years 1912 and 1913, and the total value of the crops for the years 1912 and 1913. The table also shows the increase or decrease of the total value of the crops for the years 1912 and 1913.

FARM CROPS—

	1913	1912	Increase Decrease
Corn	1,100,000	1,000,000	\$100,000
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When you can have comfort by wearing Gildner's soft shoes for tender feet? Try a pair today.

\$2.50 to \$5.00

LARSON & SON

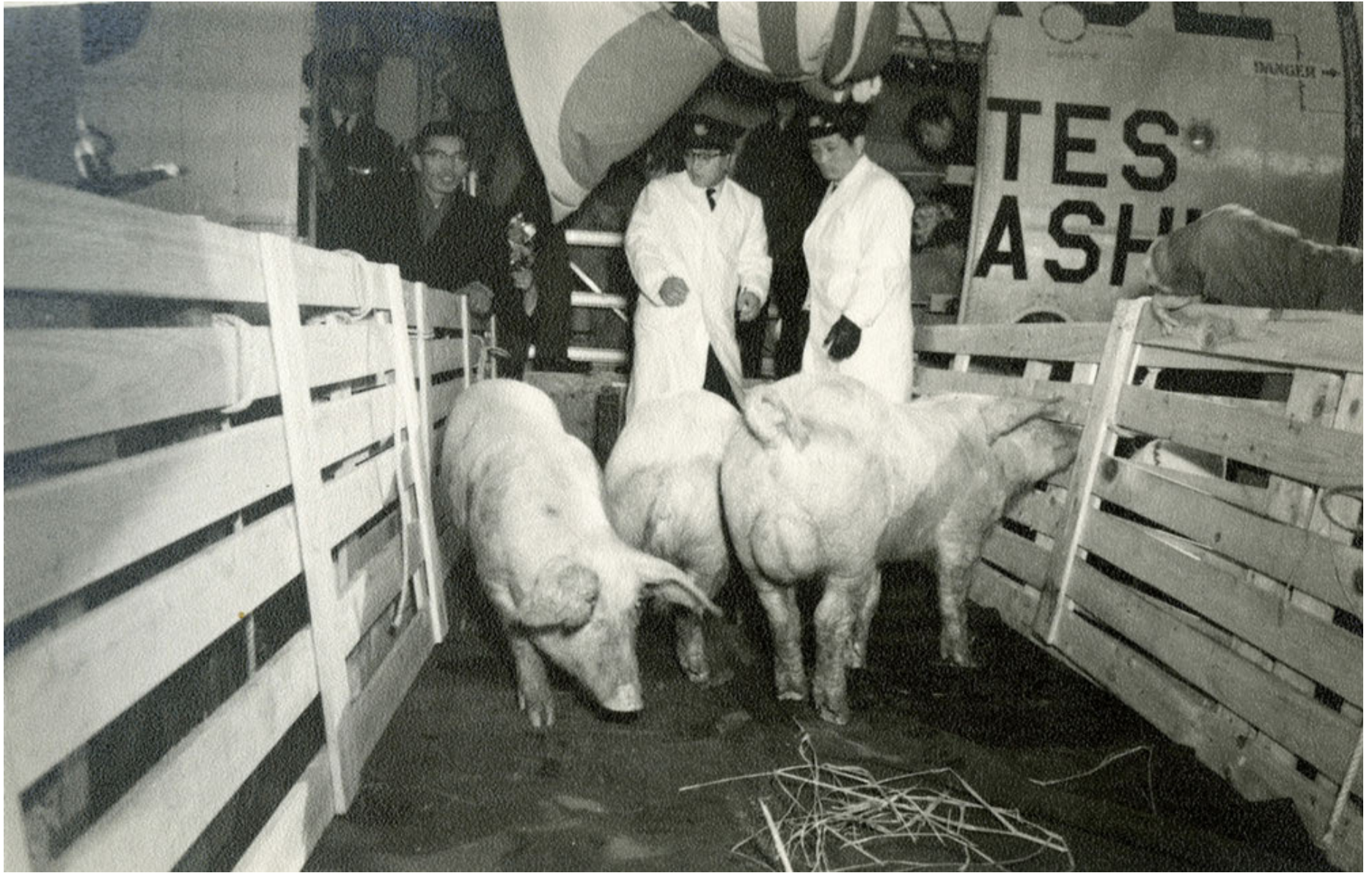
THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES

Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev Visits Iowa, September 23, 1959



Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, 23 September 1959

Iowa Hog Lift to Japan, 1959



Goeppinger, Walter, Iowa State University, 1959. [Courtesy of Iowa State University Special Collections](#)

S.2250: Congressional Tribute to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006, December 14, 2006 (Pg. 1)



PUBLIC LAW 109-395—DEC. 14, 2006

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO
DR. NORMAN E. BORLAUG ACT OF 2006

S.2250: Congressional Tribute to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006, December 14, 2006 (Pg. 2)

120 STAT. 2708

PUBLIC LAW 109-395—DEC. 14, 2006

Public Law 109-395
109th Congress

An Act

Dec. 14, 2006
[S. 2250]

To award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Congressional
Tribute to
Dr. Norman E.
Borlaug Act
of 2006.
31 USC 5111
note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Tribute to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, was born in Iowa where he grew up on a family farm, and received his primary and secondary education.

(2) Dr. Borlaug attended the University of Minnesota where he received his B.A. and Ph.D. degrees and was also a star NCAA wrestler.

(3) For the past 20 years, Dr. Borlaug has lived in Texas where he is a member of the faculty of Texas A&M University.

(4) Dr. Borlaug also serves as President of the Sasakawa Africa Association.

(5) Dr. Borlaug’s accomplishments in terms of bringing radical change to world agriculture and uplifting humanity are without parallel.

(6) In the immediate aftermath of World War II, Dr. Borlaug spent 20 years working in the poorest areas of rural Mexico. It was there that Dr. Borlaug made his breakthrough achievement in developing a strand of wheat that could exponentially increase yields while actively resisting disease.

(7) With the active support of the governments involved, Dr. Borlaug’s “green revolution” uplifted hundreds of thousands of the rural poor in Mexico and saved hundreds of millions from famine and outright starvation in India and Pakistan.

(8) Dr. Borlaug’s approach to wheat production next spread throughout the Middle East. Soon thereafter his approach was adapted to rice growing, increasing the number of lives Dr. Borlaug has saved to more than a billion people.

(9) In 1970, Dr. Borlaug received the Nobel Prize, the only person working in agriculture to ever be so honored. Since then he has received numerous honors and awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Public Service Medal, the National Academy of Sciences’ highest honor, and the Rotary International Award for World Understanding and Peace.

S.2250: Congressional Tribute to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006, December 14, 2006 (Pg. 3)

PUBLIC LAW 109-395—DEC. 14, 2006

120 STAT. 2709

(10) At age 91, Dr. Borlaug continues to work to alleviate poverty and malnutrition. He currently serves as president of Sasakawa Global 2000 Africa Project, which seeks to extend the benefits of agricultural development to the 800,000,000 people still mired in poverty and malnutrition in sub-Saharan Africa.

(11) Dr. Borlaug continues to serve as Chairman of the Council of Advisors of the World Food Prize, an organization he created in 1986 to be the “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture” and which presents a \$250,000 prize each October at a Ceremony in Des Moines, Iowa, to the Laureate who has made an exceptional achievement similar to Dr. Borlaug’s breakthrough 40 years ago. In the almost 20 years of its existence, the World Food Prize has honored Laureates from Bangladesh, India, China, Mexico, Denmark, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

(12) Dr. Borlaug has saved more lives than any other person who has ever lived, and likely has saved more lives in the Islamic world than any other human being in history.

(13) Due to a lifetime of work that has led to the saving and preservation of an untold amount of lives, Dr. Norman E. Borlaug is deserving of America’s highest civilian award: the congressional gold medal.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives are authorized to make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design, to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, in recognition of his enduring contributions to the United States and the world.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3 at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 5. STATUS AS NATIONAL MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medal struck under this Act is a national medal for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all duplicate medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There are authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund, such sums as may be necessary to pay for the cost of the medals struck under this Act.

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(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 4 shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

Approved December 14, 2006.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 2250:
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 152 (2006):
Sept. 27, considered and passed Senate.
Dec. 6, considered and passed House.

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