

FARMERS' LOT IS UNHAPPY IN ENGLAND TODAY

Am. Farm Bur. Men Report Condition of British Agriculture

HAS A MEANING FOR US

Industry Demands Cheap Food For Labor; Forces Farm Prices Down

Chicago, Dec. 13.—The American Farm Bureau delegation which recently went to Europe to investigate farming conditions there reported here before the American Farm Bureau convention through Gray Silver, legislative representative at Washington, and head of the party of investigators.

The Farm Bureau delegation visited England, France, Belgium, Germany, and Denmark to get a strictly American farmers' viewpoint of the European situation as it may affect us, and to get "farmer-gathered" material for presentation to the Congress now in session. The Farm Bureau delegation visited Europe after all the Congressional delegates had come home and, therefore, secured the last minute official survey of conditions there.

Studied Farms and Cities

The delegation arrived in London early in November and conferred there with officials of the National Farmers' Union and British and American Government representatives. From there they went to other countries. Their findings are described in this and succeeding issues of the News. In all countries they visited farmers' organizations, government officials, co-ops large and small, investigated in the cities, and motored through the country, stopping at farm homes and finding out how things are with the men on the land.

The Situation In England

The delegation found that farming interests of England are in a very unhappy position. It is of interest to know that with a population of 44,000,000 the British Isles have only 385,000 farmers and yet they are up against it for prices for their products.

The Imperial Economic Conference was in session and was discussing the possibility of assisting both home and colonial agriculture by means of a preferential tariff system of some sort. But the consensus of opinion was that the preponderating manufacturing interests of England would not permit of tariffs on food-stuffs, as it is considered essential to provide cheap food for the laboring classes. Indeed, Premier Baldwin while committing the government to a measure of protection for manufactures, announced that no tariff would be levied on wheat and meat. At the same time he stated that the government had under consideration other measures for the relief of agriculture. The American delegation was informed that these would be in the form of subsidies, especially on wheat.

Farmers Seeking a Balance

The raising of field crops is proving so unprofitable in England that there is a marked tendency to give up tillage and put land under grass for pasture. The sheep raisers in particular and the live stock growers in general were represented to be in fair condition. Truck farmers advantageously situated with respect to local markets are doing fairly well, though they have severe competition from neighboring countries.

New Owners in Distress

During the war farmers were prosperous and there was much buying of farms by tenants who now find themselves unable to complete their purchases. About 85 per cent of the farms of England are on a tenancy basis, and at present the tenant farmer is considered much more fortunate than the recent purchasers of land.

Before the war England produced only about 20 per cent of the wheat she consumed and the tendency is to revert to this position. On the other hand 46 per cent of the meat supply is domestic. Farm laborers get about 28 or 27 shillings a week—about \$6—without board and room. Whereas coal miners get 14 shillings for a day of seven hours, and industrial laborers average three times as much as farm hands.

Million Jobless Hurts Markets

There is a large amount of industrial unemployment in England, there being about 1,250,000 men out of work, most of whom are supported by doles or unemployment insurance. This condition reflects the generally depressed condition of English industry and commerce. Consequently the market is comparatively restricted for both the domestic and foreign producer of agricultural commodities. British manufacturing industries are largely dependent on foreign markets, and the chief hope of better times is a restoration of economic stability throughout the world, which will enable England to employ all her labor and trade its products for

Michigan Boy Is Honored

Addresses Thousands at International Stock Show

Saline, Dec. 20.—To Edward W. Smith, a Michigan boy from Washtenaw county, fell the signal honor on Dec. 3rd of accepting, on behalf of the boys' and girls' club members of America, the splendid new club headquarters at the International Live-stock Exposition at Chicago. The new building was presented by the management of the great show and will serve as headquarters for the hundreds of club members who annually attend the exposition.

Mr. Smith, who is but 18 years old, is an outstanding example of the beneficial results of club work. He has about as many positions and offices as he is years old. Here are a few of them: All-round champion club member in Washtenaw County last year, superintendent of the Methodist Sunday School at Saline, secretary of the Ohio Improved Chester Swine Ass'n in Michigan, secretary of the Saline Tri-Color Pig Club, secretary of the Saline Farmers' Club and president of the Michigan Association of Club Champions.

In view of these achievements, it is not surprising that Mr. Smith should have been selected from among the 1,500 club members who attended the recent International to accept on behalf of the more than 700,000 club members of America the new club headquarters. Mr. Smith's address of acceptance follows:



EDWARD W. SMITH
"Fellow Club members and all who are interested in Club Work:
"I consider this a great honor to be called upon to respond in behalf of the 1500 boy and girl club members who are representing many states in the Union, to the dedication
(Continued on page four)

Legislature Gives Up; Decides to Go Home

MOTOR MAGNATE FOR GASOLINE TAX

Those Who Benefit by Roads Should Help Pay For Them

Adrian, Dec. 18.—C. S. Mott of Flint, vice-president and director of the General Motors Corporation, has joined the ranks of those advocating a gasoline tax for highway finance purposes in Michigan. In a letter to the Adrian Telegram he declares that in his opinion real estate is now taxed to the limit; that it is fair that construction and maintenance of roads should be borne by auto owners who use the roads; that good roads lower the cost of automobile operation; that a gasoline tax would be paid largely in accordance with the benefits derived; that such a tax would improve the roads and improve the automobile business rather than depress it. He believes that the collection of such a tax would be simple and inexpensive. He said that personally he had always believed in such a tax and that since it has been adopted by 36 states out of 48 it certainly has almost universal approval. Mr. Mott's public stand for a gasoline tax is regarded as very significant.

Members Clean Up Otsego Auto Robes

Yes, we have no more Otsego auto robes, which were advertised in the Michigan Farm Bureau News for the last few issues. The couple hundred Otsegos we had were recognized by the membership as real bargains and were snapped up quickly. The same thing happened to the virgin wool horse blankets. The Bureau has some Chesterfield overcoats in 35-36-37 and 38 sizes which are good buys for men who can wear that size overcoats. They are advertised at \$15 each. The Bureau clothing dept. will continue to have fine bed blankets for sale and will continue to sell suitings and overcoats and to make them up into Farm Bureau suits and overcoats for members.

CO-OP HAS BETTER YARDS CONDITIONS

Grand Rapids, Dec. 17.—The Michigan State Farm Bureau Traffic Dept., E. L. Ewing, traffic counsel, Murray Bldg., this city, has the following letter from the Plainwell (Allegan county) Farmer Co-operative Ass'n regarding a substantial improvement it was able to effect for them in live stock shipping conditions: Michigan State Farm Bureau, Traffic Dept., Grand Rapids, Mich.
Dear Mr. Ewing:
In reply to your letter of the 11th regarding the complaint we made Oct. 25 about the Plainwell stockyards of the N. Y. C. Ry., we would say the company sent their repair men here about two weeks ago and has practically rebuilt the yards and put them in good condition. We thank you for the prompt attention you gave our request and remain,
PLAINWELL FARMERS CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N.

PRODUCE EXCHANGE WILL BE IN NEW QUARTERS JAN. 1

Increase in Poultry Business Causes Move to 2610 Riopelle St.

DISCONTINUE FRUIT DEPT In Favor of Fruit Growers Inc.; to Sell Poultry, Eggs, Hogs, Veal

Detroit, Dec. 21.—Announcement has been made by the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange that on January 1st, 1924, they will move into their new location at 2610-16 Riopelle St. It is explained that the change in location is made necessary by the greatly increased volume of business, especially in the poultry department. The new location will have about six times the floor space of the present quarters at 2729 Russell St. By having this added room, the Exchange will be able to accommodate their greatly increased volume of business. They can also grade their receipts more carefully and display their sales stock to much better advantage. Of course this means that in the future the Exchange should be able to offer still better service than in the past, although the fact that the business has shown steady and substantial growth indicates that the service given by the Produce Exchange has been very satisfactory.

\$9,000 In One Week

Last week the Produce Exchange handled over \$9,000 worth of poultry and the business is still growing.

Due to the fact that the Michigan Fruit Growers, Inc., are now organized and doing business, the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange will discontinue its fruit and general produce department in order that there may be no duplication of effort and competition between these two farmers co-operative marketing organizations.

USES BUREAU TO SHIP HIS APPLES

Bellaire, Dec. 4.—November 8, F. H. Hemstreet, of Orchard Hill Farms and Farm Bureau member, wrote the Michigan State Farm Bureau Traffic Department at Grand Rapids that they were in great need of about 10 refrigerator cars for apple shipment, and that they were without storage facilities. The Farm Bureau took immediate action and on November 20th Mr. Hemstreet wrote:

Orchard Hill Farms
Bellaire, Michigan,
Nov. 20, 1923.
Mr. Ernest L. Ewing,
Mich. Farm Bur. Traffic Dept.
Grand Rapids, Michigan.
My Dear Mr. Ewing:
The eight refrigerators were placed this morning. We are loading five of them. Had the first one loaded and billed out in just four hours.

These five cars will load out the balance of our crop.
Thanking you for your good work in this time of need, we are
Yours very respectfully,
F. H. Hemstreet & Co.

Milkmaker is Fed to Herds in 56 Counties

The Farm Bureau is now distributing Milkmaker dairy ration to its members in 56 counties and through some 216 co-operative associations, most of whom carry Milkmaker in stock the year around. The tonnage sold for 1923 and early 1924 delivery is double that of last year. Milk-maker dairy ration is a Farm Bureau service to members that has made them money. It has friends everywhere.

CO-OP. HANDLES MONEY

In 1922 co-operative marketing associations sold \$1,000,000,000 worth of agricultural products for their members.

Ship Your Poultry

To the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange at 2729 Russell St., Detroit. Your organization is there to get you the best possible returns for your poultry, eggs, dressed hogs and veal. Send the best for best results. It pays.

AFTER JAN. 1, 1924
Ship to us at our new headquarters, at 2610-16 Riopelle St., Detroit.

PRESIDENT



O. E. BRADFUTE
Unanimously re-elected president of the American Farm Bureau at its fifth annual meeting at Chicago, Dec. 10-12. Mr. Bradfute is a nationally known live stock breeder, farming at Xenia, Ohio.

KAZOO BUREAU ON LEGISLATION

Favors Ford Offer to Lease and Operate Muscle Shoals

Kalamazoo, Dec. 10.—At its December meeting the Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau Board of Directors took the following actions in behalf of their members on legislative matters which are either before or about to come before the Congress now in session:

Kalamazoo Bureau Favors

The Henry Ford offer to lease and operate the Muscle Shoals' Nitrate Plant.
The principle of Federal Crop Insurance.

Enactment of National truth-in-fabrics legislation and National truth-in-fruit juices legislation.
An amendment to the three per cent immigration law, fixing the base of calculation as the census of 1890 rather than of 1910 in order to bring in more desirable types of immigrants.

Kalamazoo Bureau Opposes

Government fixation of the price of farm products.
Passage of Senator Smoot's proposed consumption tax or any other consumption tax.
Copies of these resolutions were sent Michigan members in Congress.

SILVER PICTURES MARK'S DECLINE

German Money is Worth So Little That Farmers Refuse It

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Speaking of conditions in Germany, Gray Silver, Washington representative of the Farm Bureau, holding aloft before the convention a package of German marks said in discussing his experiences in that country:

"When I got to Berlin Nov. 10 this package of 500,000,000 marks was worth \$10 and in five days it was worth only 46 thousandths of one cent. The low value of a mark is the reason grain growers in Germany want goods for what they sell and don't want marks, because their value changes overnight. Wages there are set each morning by the official government rate of exchange.

"Here in America we don't want that kind of money and don't care to sell to Germany if we have to take that kind of money in exchange, but Germany has potash and sulphate of ammonia, fertilizer materials, and wares of many kinds that she would gladly trade to us for our foodstuffs and raw material for clothing.

"If we will trade our products to Germany for the materials we need it will enable that nation to run the potash mines and sulphate plants and the people can become consumers of our foodstuffs. They will be able to buy as usual English goods and England's unemployed would become wage earners again and consumers of American products.

16 Billion Marks for Postage on Pamphlet

The Michigan Farm Bureau has received a seed pamphlet from a firm in Germany. The significant point is that the postage represented by three stamps was 16 billion marks or 16 milliard. At the pre-war price of the German mark—or about 24 cents each—this staggering sum of 16 billion marks would have represented \$3,560,000,000 in American money.

BRADFUTE IS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FED. AT ITS FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

National Body Hears Reports for Year's Work and Lays Down Program for 1924; Noted Speakers Address the Delegates; Michigan Well Represented

Am. Farm Bureau Resolutions in Brief

Following, and in brief, is a summary of the important resolutions adopted by the American Farm Bureau convention at Chicago, December 10-12, 1923:

Government price fixing of farm commodities is unsound.

Henry Ford's Muscle Shoals project re-indorsed and Congress urged to act at once.

Main line railroad systems should be electrified for economy of operation.

Immigration should be restricted to present total per year, and the three per cent law should be made effective on the basis of 1890 rather than 1910 so as to bring desirable immigrants from northern Europe rather than less desirable people from southern Europe. Immigrants should be selected by the U. S., with examination overseas.

Taxes should be progressive, with higher rates for higher incomes. Wealth should be made to share its just burden of taxation.

Any kind of a sales tax opposed; issuance of tax free securities should be stopped. Leaks in 1921 tax law should be stopped and profits derived from sale of stock and such evasions as stock dividends should be made taxable at the regular surtax rates.

Reduction of income tax was opposed. Federal and national banks should be taxed the same as any other business or farm.

Construction of Great-Lakes St. Lawrence and Great Lakes to Gulf waterways endorsed, also an American merchant marine and more farm-to-market roads.

Interstate Commerce Commission should reduce freight rates on farm products.

U. S. Dep't. of Agriculture control of grain market Boards of Trade in their future trading and U. S. control of the meat packers and their stockyards is endorsed and should be continued.

Co-operative marketing endorsed as the most practical course for a profitable agriculture.

Development of electrical power for farms by development of our water power was indorsed.

ANNUAL FARMERS WEEK AT M. A. C. FEB. 4 TO 8

East Lansing, Dec. 20.—Farmers Week at the Michigan Agricultural College, the biggest agricultural gathering of the year, will be held from February 4 to 8, this winter, according to A. M. Berridge, chairman of the Farmers Week committee.

Features of former years will be included in this year's program, along with new and added phases of entertainment and education.

BUREAU PLANNING 1924 WOOL POOL

Farm Bureau wool growers will be interested to learn that Secretary-Manager C. L. Brody and Business Manager C. H. Runciman of the State Farm Bureau have been investigating the wool pools of other states and are developing plans to further improve the Michigan pool for 1924. The Bureau is getting an early start on its plans for the 1924 pool. It is expected that these ideas can be ready for presentation to the delegates to the annual meeting in February.

CORRECTION

Since publication of the last Farm Bureau News steps are under way to greatly broaden the Farm Bureau's freight bill auditing service. Consideration of the additional expenses which the improvement of this service will bring about, has led the Bureau to make a small charge for this service hereafter in order to help keep the service up to the standard that the members want.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Delegates to the fifth annual convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation held in Chicago, Dec. 10-13, unanimously re-elected Oscar E. Bradfute of Xenia, Ohio, as president of the Federation for another year. J. F. Reed of St. Paul, president of the Minnesota Farm Bureau, was elected vice-president. The delegates elected a new national Executive Committee of 12 members. The Executive Committee re-engaged J. W. Coverdale as secretary and treasurer. He is also to be in charge of national organization work.

National Leaders There

The convention was addressed by Secretary Wallace of the U. S. Dep't. of Agriculture, Julius Barnes, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, E. H. Cunningham, farmer member of the Federal Reserve Board, Aaron Sapiro and other national leaders who discussed present day problems as they affect American farmers. Strong resolutions adopted are printed in full in this issue of the News.

The American Farm Bureau meeting demonstrated once more the ability of the farmers to stick together, although at the meeting there were two groups with strongly different opinions regarding the co-operative marketing policy to be followed.

The first group favored a more aggressive co-operative marketing policy on the part of the American Farm Bureau. The second group believed in stressing heavily the matters of legislation, education, and transportation matters and at the same time carrying on a good co-operative marketing program. The matter was threshed out before the delegates and the will of the majority was in favor of the second group. The minority group accepted the majority point of view and joined in making the election of all directors unanimous. The meeting ended harmoniously with bright prospects for the future. The states that fought the hardest for the minority point of view are not showing any signs of disloyalty and their leaders have announced that they will abide by the will of the convention and work for a bigger and better Farm Bureau. Time alone will tell which one of the two groups was absolutely right in its views; however, both groups were working to the same end and the organization will get there just the same. Michigan was strongly sympathetic with the group seeking an even stronger program of co-operative marketing, but, of course, will co-operate with the administration to the fullest extent in the program as laid down by the fifth A. F. B. F. annual meeting.

Organization work is to be made a major activity of the American Farm Bureau for the coming year. The delegates re-affirmed an endorsement of co-operative marketing enterprises.

Michigan Well Represented

Michigan State Farm Bureau members were represented by their president, W. E. Phillips of Decatur, Vice-President M. L. Noon of Jackson, Secretary-Manager C. L. Brody of Lansing, Mrs. Edith Wagor of Carleton, James Nicol of South Haven, E. C. McCarty of Bad Axe, and other delegates.

Gray Silver, Farm Bureau Legislative representative at Washington, reported what an American Farm Bureau delegation to Europe had seen in their studies of European agricultural conditions. Portions of his report are published elsewhere in this issue of the News and will be continued in succeeding editions. The trip was made for the purpose of helping get the Washington office of the Farm Bureau prepared for the present session of Congress with accurate information on European conditions.

Wallace Congratulates Bureau

Secretary Wallace congratulated the Farm Bureau on the strength of its organization and its harmonious relations with other farm organizations. He urged every farmer to line up with his organization. Mr. Wallace said that the Packer and Stockyards control act passed by Congress, largely at the call of the American Farm Bureau, is in danger as certain packers are attempting to wreck it. The act was passed for the protection of farmer producers. Mr. Wallace said:

"The packer and stock yards act was passed by Congress after long years of conflict between the packers on the one hand and the farmers and stockmen and the consuming public on the other. The farmers felt that by agreement or understanding the big packers were conspiring to buy their stock at less than it was worth. The consumers felt that they were being forced to pay more for their

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GOOD WILL TO MEN!

At this holiday season, when the spirit of the Golden Rule and of brotherhood is so manifest, how fitting it is to call attention to the fact that the Farm Bureau, both in principle and practice, is in entire harmony with these sentiments of universal good will.

The whole purpose of the Farm Bureau is constructive—not destructive, to help—not to harm. It is not asking on behalf of its membership anything which is unjust or unfair to the public at large. Its whole program is not built from any narrow class standpoint. The Farm Bureau is not out to "get" anybody, or to put anybody out of business merely for the fun of it or for spite.

The Farm Bureau does strongly contend, however, that the man who produces the basic agricultural products of our nation is entitled to more than thirty-three cents of the consumer's dollar and that any system of marketing which absorbs the other sixty-seven cents as handling charges is unfair and is inefficient marketing.

And so to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number is after all the real purpose of the Farm Bureau. It seeks results. It isn't particularly interested in who gets the glory. It isn't jealous of other farmers' organizations. It has only the most friendly of feelings for all of them and today is evidencing the sincerity of this feeling by practical co-operation with all Michigan farm organizations.

Peace on earth, good will to men and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year is the wish of the State Farm Bureau to all.

DOES COOLIDGE UNDERSTAND OUR PROBLEMS?

The notable message of President Coolidge to Congress was received with varying degrees of enthusiasm. His frank opposition to a bonus is said to have greatly displeased the American Legion. His disapproval of governmental price fixing and other complicated and unnatural forms of relief for agriculture has failed to satisfy those radical elements of our western farmers, who seek to make agriculture prosperous over night by legislation.

But is there not much cause for favorable comment in the President's comprehensive analysis of the farmer's difficult situation and in the same remedies which he advocates?

Let us examine a few pithy paragraphs from the President's message. Referring to the low prices which we receive for our

products and the high cost of things we must buy, the message declares:

"With his products not selling on a parity with the products of industry, every sound remedy that can be devised should be applied for the relief of the farmer. He represents a character, a type of citizenship, and a public necessity that must be preserved and afforded every facility for regaining prosperity.

"The distress is most acute among those wholly dependant upon one crop. Wheat acreage was greatly expanded and has not yet been sufficiently reduced. A large amount is raised for export, which has to meet the competition in the world market of large amounts raised on land much cheaper and much more productive.

"No complicated scheme of relief, no plan for government fixing of prices, no resort to the public treasury will be of any permanent value in establishing agriculture. Simple and direct methods put into operation by the farmer himself are the only real sources for restoration.

"Indirectly the farmer must be relieved by a reduction of national and local taxation. He must be assisted by the re-organization of the freight-rate structure which could reduce charges on his production. Cheaper fertilizers must be provided.

"He must have organization. His customer with whom he exchanges products of the farm for those of industry is organized, labor is organized, business is organized, and there is no way for agriculture to meet this unless it, too, is organized. The acreage of wheat is too large. Unless we can meet the world market at a profit, we must stop raising for export. Organization would help to reduce acreage. Systems of co-operative marketing created by the farmers themselves, supervised by competent management, without doubt would be of assistance, but they can not wholly solve the problem. Our agricultural schools ought to have thorough courses in the theory of organization and co-operative marketing."

"Another reform which is urgent in our fiscal system is the abolition of the right to issue tax-exempt securities. The existing system not only permits a large amount of the wealth of the Nation to escape its just burden but acts as a continual stimulant to municipal extravagance. This should be prohibited by constitutional amendment. All the wealth of the Nation ought to contribute its fair share to the expenses of the Nation."

"Free government has no greater menace than disrespect for authority and continual violation of law. It is the duty of a citizen not only to observe the law but to let it be known that he is opposed to its violation."

Farmers Are Unhappy In England Today

(Continued from page 1) desired goods from other countries. At the same time there is much pessimism in any event, as the struggles for foreign markets is expected to be very severe, especially in competition with the United States. The entrance of the United States into international shipping is rather resented, as it promises a bitter time for England in a field that she has largely monopolized. Taxation is onerously heavy and there is some feeling that England has deflated too rapidly in the effort to restore the pound sterling to a gold basis. British farmers have suffered heavily from competition with the cheap money countries of the continent.

Organized, But Are Secondary While it is conceded on all sides that agriculture must be secondary to industry in the British national policies, there is a strong feeling that it must be encouraged in some way both as a contributor to the balance of national life and as a measure of national defense. The Farmers Union therefore professes to have had little difficulty in working up a strong following in parliament, regardless of party lines, for the purpose of securing beneficial agricultural legislation. Out of 200 members of the agricultural committee of the House of Commons 125 are pledged to support legislation favored by the Union.

It is expected that in the next session this bloc, supported by sympathetic though non-pledged members, will be very powerful. The executive of the National Farmers Union is thoroughly familiar with the legislative achievements of the Congressional farm bloc in the United States and hopes to emulate them. Seventy per cent or 120,000 of the farmers of England and Wales belong to the Union. It was founded in 1908 but its principal growth has been in the last few years.

Farmers co-operatives in England have suffered by not being organized along special commodity lines. Where they have attempted to buy and sell in products with which they were not familiar, they have met with trouble. Dairy products are handled extensively for the producers by the Farmers Union. (English farmers' co-operative ass'ns are coming to the commodity type of organization, such as practised in the United States, particularly in Michigan.)

A Lesson for U. S. Farmers The members of the American delegation were much impressed that England is the type of nation in which agriculture is subordinated to industry, and that the problems which consequently face English agriculture afford food for thought in connection with the future economic development of the United States. Will it be wise for the United States to follow in England's path and allow industry to overshadow agriculture or should national policy be directed toward maintaining an approximate balance between farm and city industry?

On the other hand, the delegation was much impressed by what it learned of the way in which agriculture of other countries contributes to the

cheapness of foods in England, so much desired by the industrial interests. Being an enormous import market, England tends to draw to itself the surpluses of all other nations which there compete with each other, both to the hurt of English and foreign farmers.

What Happens to Exports At the great Convent garden market the Americans saw the products of France, Spain, Canada, United States, Denmark, South Africa and other countries in both individual and national competition with the home products, with no orderly control of the volume of offerings in relation to market requirements. Many commodities, including high-grade American apples, for example, were offered that day at prices that obviously meant losses to the producers. Agricultural products from all parts of the world are "dumped" in England on consignment and are at the mercy of momentary supply and demand.

The Farm Bureau observers were assured that only by proper organization of their exports could American producers get into such a position so that their products would be offered only at favorable marketing times. As England is the greatest outlet for the world's surplus agricultural products, it is generally a buyer's rather than a seller's market.

CASS FARMERS IN BIG MEETING

Show Rest of State How to Secure Real Teamwork

Cassopolis, Dec. 7.—For real community co-operation the big farmers' banquet held here last night would be hard to beat. The Woodman's Hall was crowded to capacity with farmers and business men from every township but two in the entire Cass County.

Following a delicious banquet served by the Daughters of the Royal Neighbors, an interesting and instructive program which had been arranged by County Agricultural Agent Nash was presented, with Mr. Berkeley, editor of the local paper, acting as toastmaster.

The first speaker of the evening was Stanley M. Powell, legislative representative of the State Farm Bureau. He discussed the legislative program of the Farmers' Federated Legislative Committee, which represents the State Grange, the Gleaners, the Farmers' Clubs and the State Farm Bureau. Mr. Powell made a strong plea for the enactment of a program of taxation reform, including a state income tax, a gas tax and the abolition of tax-exempt securities.

The remarks of Mr. Powell were heartily supported by Rep. Fred B. Wells of Cassopolis who gave specific facts and figures to show to what extent the general property tax is becoming unbearable and confiscatory.

Nash Pleads for Harmony

"Why We Are Here" was the topic on which county agent Nash was asked to speak. He admitted that he was happily surprised by the wonderful response of the farmers and business men to his invitation for them to all come out to an evening of real community teamwork and fellowship. He pled for the adoption of a real community program, in which they would all get together and make their plans and then work together in carrying them out to completion.

M. L. Noon of Jackson, vice-president of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, delivered the principal address of the evening, speaking on the general topic of co-operative marketing. Mr. Noon illustrated the success of co-operative marketing organizations in Michigan by tracing the results which have been secured by the Michigan Milk Producers' Association.

KETCHAM ON HOUSE COMM. ON AGRICULTURE

Congressman John C. Ketcham of Hastings, Barry county, is Michigan's member of the House Committee on Agriculture in Congress. Mr. Ketcham is a prominent Granger and Farm Bureau member and is a familiar speaker at Michigan farmers' meetings. He is a member of the famous Farm Bloc in Congress.

Dairy-Alfalfa Drive Started in Newaygo

East Lansing, Dec. 20.—Newaygo county, the fifth county of the state to undertake intensive work in the interests of more efficient dairy and crops practices, started an Alfalfa-Dairy campaign on December 17, the extension division of the Michigan Agricultural College co-operating with local county authorities in putting on the drive.

Similar campaigns have already been completed this fall in Arenac, Sanilac, Shiawassee and Barry counties, while Ottawa will start a campaign the middle of January.

Big Crop On South Haven Peaches Set Spring, 1919

Mr. Bredehoft is a fruit grower and represents us in the great peach belt along Lake Erie in Ottawa County, Ohio. His customers are past masters in the science of growing fruit.

Naturally they are skeptical of new introductions because many so-called new varieties either are not new or worthless.

READ WHAT BREDEHOFT SAYS

The Greening Nursery Co., Monroe, Michigan. Gentlemen: I want you to know that South Haven trees on the H. H. Hammond farm, the first to come into this community, are satisfying the skeptical and they are all what you claim for them. They are ready for market now, with the Carmen. All I have to do is to take the fellows into that orchard. Expect to get some nice orders now. The fruit is uniform in size, all running large in spite of the very, very dry season. There are about 250 trees in the orchard and I do not believe there will be one bushel of B grade peaches in the whole block. Yesterday they sold the fruit at the house as fast as they could pick it and could have sold more if more had been ripe. I took the managers of the local fruit companies down yesterday and they are now convinced that you have not exaggerated its merits. It sure does me good to be able to prove this to some of the fellows who had no faith in new introductions in peach varieties. Thanking you, with kindest regards, I am Very sincerely yours, (Signed) E. H. BREDEHOFT.

This Great Peach—The South Haven—Stands Alone on Several Counts:

1.—Hardiness. 2.—Early and continuous heavy bearing. 3.—Size and beauty. 4.—Shipping qualities. 5.—Its merits as a canning peach. 6.—Last but not least, season of ripening, which averages eighteen days earlier than the Elberta, thus bringing the South Haven on the market at a time to catch the big prices before the drop, which usually occurs when the Elberta goes on sale in quantity. Full history of this peach will be mailed to all interested. Ask for your copy today.

The Greening Nursery Co. Monroe, Michigan Born 1850—Still Growing

Textile Chemists O. K. Farm Bur. Suitings

2311 Buchanan St., Nashville, Tenn. Nov. 8, 1923.

Dear Sirs: I received my suiting O. K., and will state I am carried away with same.

Please accept my thanks through Mr. L. R. Neil for this favor.

I showed suiting to several textile chemists and they all stated it was the finest goods they had seen in some time.

If you people have a surplus stock on hand and want to get rid of same send me samples and prices, as everybody who saw my suit wanted one like it.

Thanking you again for the favor shown, I am Sincerely, J. L. Hays.

A Big Business

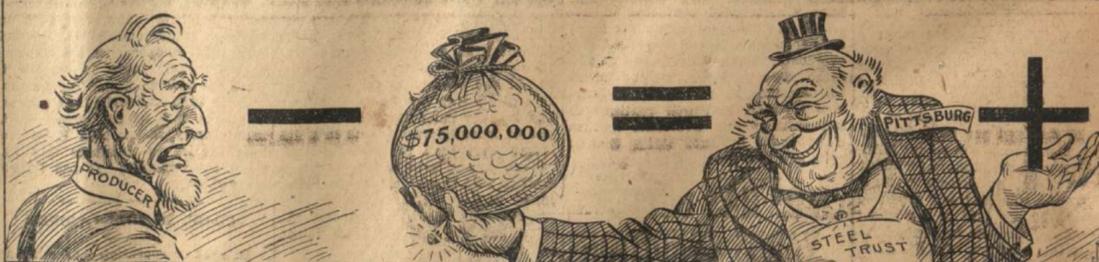
The Pacific Egg Producers' Co-operative, Inc., is doing business at the rate of \$2,300,000 annually. This organization is the eastern selling agency for four Pacific Coast egg-selling associations. It maintains an office and storeroom in New York City and disposes of the carlots of eggs forwarded by the member associations.

After Jan. 1, 1924, ship your poultry, eggs, dressed hogs and veal to the Farm Bureau Produce Exch. at its new address, 2610-16 Riopelle St., Detroit, for best and prompt returns.

Mich. Livestock Exch. at Detroit

Prod. Co-op. Com. Ass'n at East Buffalo

"Figures Are Usually Awfully Simple, But At Times They Are Simply Awful"



With the re-opening on December 10th of the great Pittsburgh Plus case which has been pending before the Federal Trade Commission for several months, public interest is once more being focused on this important agricultural and economic issue.

"Pittsburgh Plus" it will be remembered, is the trade name for a clever scheme by which the steel mills sell their product at a delivered price, which is the price at Pittsburgh plus the freight from Pittsburgh to the point of destination, regardless of where the steel is made. The difference between the freight charged and the actual freight paid is the "plus," an extra profit for the steel mills. This shrewd and unfair practice taxes the farmers and other consumers over \$75,000,000 a year for a freight service not rendered. The Michigan State Farm Bureau opposes the practice.

As the average farmer buys over a ton of steel annually in the form of farm implements, wire and hundreds of other steel products, the method of marketing steel naturally interests him vitally.

Regarding the increased cost of farm machinery traceable to Pittsburgh Plus, Deere & Company, Moline, Ill., reply as follows:

"The freight rate from Pittsburgh to Moline is now \$8.60 per ton. The rate to Moline from Chicago, from which most of our steel is shipped is \$3.10 per ton, so we now pay \$5.50 per ton of Pittsburgh-Plus." Based on those figures the added cost to Deere & Company is as follows:

- Riding Cultivator ... 1.11 Mower ... 1.15 Disc Harrow ... 1.70 Corn Planter ... 1.74 Sulkey Rake ... 2.34 Grain Drill ... 2.76 Gang Plow ... 3.25 Tractor Plow ... 5.65

- Corn Binder ... 6.19 Grain Binder ... 6.28 Tractor ... 17.32

*Grain drills are made at Horicon, Wisconsin, and tractors at Waterloo, Iowa. Freight is computed to these points.

Nothing to Defend It

The practice of selling rolled steel on the Pittsburgh Plus basis has nothing to defend it. It is only tolerated because it is already established and the public generally does not understand its rank and flagrant injustice.

Large quantities of steel are produced at mills in Ohio, from which mills the freight rate to Michigan points is much lower than from Pittsburgh. The Youngstown, Ohio, district is almost as large a steel producing center as is Allegheny County, which is the Pittsburgh district. The Cleveland district including Lorain, is another large steel producing center.

It is estimated that 65 per cent of all farm implements is made within a radius of 150 miles from Chicago. The Pittsburgh Plus charge enters the cost to the manufacturer of those implements and is passed on to the consumer, and as these implements are shipped to all parts of the country, the "plus" goes with them and is paid by the farmer in Maine and California, the same as by the Michigan farmer.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The Federal Trade Commission has just completed its two year investigation of the United States Steel Corporation's "Pittsburgh Plus" method of pricing steel. The case is now advanced for final arguments of the Trade Commission and the Steel Corporation, which precedes a decision. National known professors from leading universities attacked the Pittsburgh Plus system in the recent hearings.

Resolutions Adopted At Fifth Annual Meeting Of The American Farm Bureau Federation

At Chicago, Dec. 10-12, 1923

POLICY STATED ON RAILROADS, TAXES AND LEGISLATION

Delegates Urge Building Up Organization for Greater Power

Legislation

Each state Farm Bureau should inform its members through their organization of the facts as found by the American Farm Bureau Federation legislative department through its visit to Europe to obtain these facts so that American agriculture may take intelligent action on the proposed legislation during the session of the present Congress. The American Farm Bureau Federation expresses its appreciation to the United States Department of Agriculture and to the United States Department of Commerce for aid and counsel throughout the European investigation, and commend Mr. Gray Silver of the legislative department and his associates for their effective work in obtaining this information for the benefit of American agriculture.

Marketing

We reaffirm our endorsement of co-operative marketing of farm products as offering the most practicable on a profitable basis. We urge American Universities and Colleges, public schools and especially our State Agricultural Colleges and Agricultural High Schools to establish regular and special courses in co-operative marketing based upon the experience of successful American co-operatives. We also ask that courses in farm cost accounting be stressed.

National Taxation

We reaffirm the three principles adopted last year as the basis of our tax work. These principles were stated as follows:

- (a) The measure of ability to pay taxes for the support of the national government is net income.
 - (b) The tax should be progressive; that is, the greater the income the higher the rate.
 - (c) Insofar as it is practicable, taxes should be so laid as to tend to the equitable distribution of wealth.
- We reaffirm our objections to a general sales tax.

We recommend that the issuing of all tax-free securities be stopped.

We recommend that all deductions allowed in figuring income taxes first be set-off against tax-free income.

We urge that steps be taken to stop the leaks in the 1921 tax law, including an amendment whereby profits derived from the sale of stock received as stock dividends, shall be taxable at the regular surtax rates.

We urge upon the President and the Secretary of the Treasury and the officials of speeding up income and profits tax adjustment and of securing a more efficient Income Tax Bureau to the end that these forms of taxation be not brought into disrepute by poor administration.

We oppose any reduction of income taxes. We believe that the excess of national income over expenditures should be applied towards reducing national indebtedness.

That Federal Statute 5219 be so amended that it may be possible in all states to tax national banks as other business and farmers are taxed in the same locality.

State Taxation

We suggest that states still relying upon the general property tax undertake a careful study of state and local tax methods.

Tax committees should be formed in each State Federation for the study of state taxation, and in each County Farm Bureau for the study of local tax problems.

Transportation

We urge upon Congress the great importance of establishing a co-ordinated policy of transportation involving farm-to-market roads, the railroads, the construction of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and Lakes to Gulf waterways and an American Merchant Marine so that the products of the farm may be moved to the consumer rapidly, cheaply and efficiently.

All facts incident to costs and division of costs should be investigated by Congress. Not only should it look into the basis upon which the Interstate Commerce Commission has arrived at the valuation of railroads, but it should determine carefully what revenue the railroads require in order to obtain a fair return on a fair investment valuation. It should indicate the proper distribution of this revenue as between passenger and freight and as between different kinds of freight. It should go into the situation thoroughly as regards possible consolidation and indicate a policy for further governmental dealings with the railroads.

Further immediate action should be taken by the Interstate Commerce Commission to reduce freight rates on all agricultural products which are sold at disproportionately low prices.

Foreign Relations

We urge the immediate adoption by the American government of a vigorous foreign policy designed to carry out America's obligations resulting from her war aims and the terms of the armistice which ended

the war, and thus to restore peace and prosperity to Europe.

Colorado River Project
We recommend to Congress that diligence be exercised in the completion of the Colorado River project and recommend that the seven-states compact water treaty be ratified.

Immigration
We favor a limitation of the number of immigrants permitted to enter this country to approximately the present total. We should shift the basis upon which the percentage is determined from 1910 to 1890 or an earlier period.

We recommend that all immigrants be selected after physical, mental and other tests, in the land of their nativity, by representatives of our Government and that the Congress take proper steps to put such plan into operation.

Flood Control Bill
We earnestly urge the Congress of the United States to appropriate annually the full amount authorized under the Flood Control Act for levee construction, bank re-vestment and channel improvement along the Mississippi River and its tributaries, International Institute of Agriculture, Rome

We endorse the work of the International Institute of Agriculture, at Rome and urge the appropriation of its regular budget required by treaty for the coming year. We also recommend the appropriation to cover the participation of our possessions: Alaska, Hawaii, Philippines and Porto Rico as first class members of the Institute as well as sufficient funds to enable the American delegation to meet other delegations on an equality in the exchange of courtesies.

We also favor the appointment of a Farm Bureau Federation representative whose name is to be submitted to the Department of State as one of the delegates to the International Congress of Agriculture to be held at Rome in May, 1924.

Reclamation
We endorse the action of the Secretary of the Interior in appointing a Reclamation Fact Finding Committee, and urge that in recommending a policy for federal reclamation, with regard to the disposition of reclamation funds first consideration be given to projects now under construction, or completed, to the end that the settlers already on the land may be assured of an ample supply of water and adequate drainage for their farms.

Home and Community
We reiterate the resolution adopted last year in regard to Home and Community Work.

We recommend a full development of the home and community program and urge that the county, state and national organizations place women on their governing boards so that the whole program, social, economic, legislative and marketing may be worked out by men and women together.

We believe that a liberal interpretation should be placed upon the powers of the County Agents, Home Demonstration Agents and Boys' and Girls' Club Agents in lending assistance to farmers in the building and maintaining of co-operative and general farmers' organizations.

Vocational Education in Agriculture
We recommend that state farm bureau officials of the states in cooperation with the counties, actively participate in the promotion of a comprehensive program of vocational education in agriculture adapted to the needs of rural communities with proper committees in each county which shall co-operate with teachers of vocational agriculture.

Price Fixing
We believe government price fixing for agricultural commodities to be unsound and that it has heretofore failed to serve the purpose for which it was intended.

Truth-in-Fabric
We reaffirm our stand in favor of the Truth-in-Fabric bill which merely calls for common honesty in the labeling of woolen goods.

Foreign Marketing
We commend the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Commerce for the work they are doing in the foreign marketing field and we also urge that it be continued and enlarged in their respective fields.

Highway Appropriations
The amount of funds to be appropriated for highway construction should, with due regard to the condition of the Treasury, be adequate to carry out the Federal Highway Act of 1921 which called for a three year program in conjunction with the states in building a system of roads. Congress should cause no delay in construction because of lack of or lateness of appropriating funds to carry out this program.

Muscle Shoals
We reaffirm our advocacy of the Henry Ford offer relating to water power, steam power and nitrate plants at Muscle Shoals and urge Congress to give us a vote upon this matter without further delay.

Electrification of Railroads
Electrification of Class A railroads will result in cheaper transportation and should be adopted. Electricity should be generated from both streams and mines and enable the amortization of investment at low interest rates.

Intermediate Credits
We urge an amendment to the intermediate credit act changing the minimum loan period from six to four months.

Standardization and Grading
We favor the further study and development of grades of agricultural commodities, the improvement of present grades, and promulgation of laws, rules and regulations as rapidly as feasible.

Purnell Bill
We favor the Purnell Bill calling for additional appropriations for agricultural research in the State Experiment Stations under a stipulation that the additional funds be designated for research in marketing, finance and betterment of conditions of rural life.

Licensing of Commission Men
We recommend the adoption of a plan for the licensing of all commercial dealers and shippers engaged in interstate shipments of agricultural products by the U. S. Department of Agriculture under existing laws or such additional laws as may be necessary.

Transmission of Membership Dues
We believe that the failure of county and state Farm Bureaus to accurately divide and to promptly transmit to their state and national organizations respectively, the proper proportion of membership fees entrusted to their keeping, should be regarded by this body as a misappropriation of funds and that the responsible officers should be held accountable therefor under the law.

We earnestly urge that every county and state Farm Bureau adopt such methods as are necessary to bring about a full transmission of membership dues regularly every month.

Public Health Service

We approve of the U. S. Public Health Service in all of its activities in rural districts and ask that this work be developed and urge that local farm bureaus co-operate wholeheartedly with the health service in making its rural program effective.

Federal Usury Laws
We favor an amendment to the eligibility clause of the federal reserve act to limit all rediscounts, including commission and brokerage, to 2 per cent above the base federal reserve rate.

Tuberculosis Eradication
The present excellent progress in the eradication of bovine tuberculosis should be continued and accelerated.

Merchant Marine
We favor a well balanced and properly equipped merchant marine for carrying our goods by the most direct route to the principal distributing ports of the world. We are opposed to subsidies or other gratuities and believe that if Americans are loyal to the American lines the volume of business will be sufficient for profitable operation.

Tariff
We believe that the making of tariff schedules is of such great importance that the United States no longer can afford to permit it to be subjected to political determination. We urge a vigorous continuous study by the Tariff Commission with added authority to change schedules as changing conditions warrant.

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We urge the unification of all agencies working towards the betterment of rural life.

Relations
The American Farm Bureau Federation is pledged to a nation-wide co-operative marketing program, and as a service organization is absolutely essential to the success of the co-operative associations. The Farm Bureau is the best equipped farm organization to render such service and we recognize that we need a more definite relationship between the Farm Bureau organizations and the commodity associations than has existed up-to-date.

It is the duty of the National, State and County Farm Bureau to initiate and conduct organization work of co-operatives, expenditures on that account to be repaid by the co-operatives association.

No organization work shall be undertaken by the marketing department of the Federation in any state nor any assistance be rendered any group therein without the endorsement of the state farm bureau.

County and State Farm Bureaus should establish service relationship with co-operative associations based upon written memoranda of understanding, these relationships to be determined by local or state conditions, and to provide adequate compensation for services rendered by county and state farm bureaus.

The Co-operative Marketing Department of the A. F. B. F. shall endeavor to establish a service relationship with national co-operatives, with the aim in view of co-ordinating the national co-operative marketing movement for organization service and defense.

Crop Insurance
We approve the studies of crop insurance now being made by a special Congressional Committee and ask that investigations be continued until sound crop insurance principles have been developed and secured.

United States Department of Agriculture
We commend the work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations and recommend close co-operation with the Federal and State Extension services in making the results of investigations of these institutions available to all the people.

Grain Futures
We confirm our previous endorsement of the Grain Futures Act and Stockyards Control Act and instruct our Legislative Department to op-

pose all efforts to repeal it or weaken it by amendment.

Super Power
Super-power, hydro-electric development and the storage and utilization of water for electrical purposes should be synonymous terms in America. The cost factor as regards power must be decreased, and the price of hydro-electricity must be such as will permit and encourage its use for agricultural purposes. The utilization of our water power must be secured under such reasonable restrictions as will protect the public interest now and conserve for future generations, title to this great national resource.

Waterpower resources should be developed so as to provide cheap power for all, when used for production purposes, in large or small amounts. Undue haste in developing a national super-power system for promotional and speculative profits, rather than for the public good, is not advisable. The whole people must be the recipients of our national development of the remaining and vast waterpower still left us.

Truth in Seeds
We favor the enactment of a federal truth-in-seeds law to the end that purchasers may be protected against adulteration and false labeling as well as to correlate the many state laws upon this subject.

Organization Work
We urge throughout the coming year that organization be made a major activity of the A. F. B. F.

Plant Pests and Diseases
The many plant pests and diseases with which our crops are harassed in various parts of the nation justify the continuation of all efforts and appropriations for their control and eradication. The chemicals necessary for this work should be available at prices far below the present scale of drug values which are prohibitive in many instances. The manufacture of arsenates and other insecticides at Muscle Shoals extends a great hope in this direction. The National Livestock Producers' Association

We approve most heartily the work of the National Live Stock Producers' Association and pledge it our continued support and urge a closer affiliation with A. F. B. F.

Appreciation of Bloc
We wish to express our appreciation of the services of the Farm Bloc of both Senate and House of our National Congress in securing agricultural legislation.

THOUGHTS ON SEED AND POCKETBOOKS
Those Who Open Purse for Unknown Seed Take Big Chance

Imports of red clover from Europe are beginning to arrive in large quantities. It is reported that 6,000 bags of European clover arrived one day recently. Each of these imported bags contains 220 pounds so that means over a million and a quarter pounds of seed. Practically all of the large seed houses in the middle west are reported to be buying this imported seed in large quantities. Most of them frankly state there isn't enough domestic seed to go around and go further and state that when the seeding season comes farmers will buy red clover no matter where it is grown. This imported seed will not stand our climate and it winter kills.

One point we would like to call attention to—we have been receiving heavy imports of both red clover and alfalfa nearly every year for many years. We know positively that imported seed has been sold in quantities in previous years in Michigan and that quantities of it will be sown in Michigan this year, and yet we have never found a farmer who knew he was getting imported seed at the time he purchased his supply.

There is one way to protect yourself against this imported seed. Use Farm Bureau Brands. Beware of substitutes "just as good."

New Winter Rules For Celery Shipments
Hamilton, Dec. 19.—New rules for express winter shipments of celery were made known by the Hamilton Farm Bureau local here today. The Express Co. now rules that when the temperature gets as low as 32 Fahrenheit—freezing—that celery must have one wrapping of ordinary paper; when the temperature gets as low as 10 above zero the celery must have a double wrapping of oil paper. These rulings are confirmed by the State Farm Bureau Traffic Department at Grand Rapids.

NEIGHBORS SIGN NEIGHBORS
A membership of over 62,000 with prospects of adding several thousand more by the end of the year is the record for the second 3-year period of organization of the farm bureau in Illinois. Forty-five county membership campaigns have been carried on this year. Farm Bureau membership dues in Illinois are \$15.00 per year. G. E. Metzger, director of organization for the Illinois Agricultural Association, says, "An outstanding feature of this second round of membership campaigns is the fact that four-fifths of the members are signed by neighbor signing neighbor."

Bradfute Re-Elected A. F. B. F. President

(Continued from page 1)
meat than was just, considering the prices paid for live stock.

Act Has Teeth
"Finally Congress passed the act which brings the packers, the live stock commission merchants and the stock yards companies under the supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture. In addition to forbidding unfair practices of every kind the law requires the packers and others to keep their books and records in such a way as to 'fully and correctly disclose all transactions,' and further than this it provides that 'Whenever the Secretary finds that the accounts, records and memoranda of any such person do not fully and correctly disclose all transactions involved in his business, the Secretary may prescribe the manner and form in which such accounts, records and memoranda shall be kept.'

"To learn whether the books are kept in such a way as to comply with the plain terms of the law it is necessary that a competent accountant be placed in each office long enough to become familiar with the system followed. The packers—or some of them—object to this. They seem to think it is none of our business how their books are kept; that we have no right to know what their books disclose.

Packers Change Front
"During the years when the packers were suffering severely from the agitation which preceded the enactment of this law they repeatedly said that they had nothing to conceal, that their books were open. They said this before congressional committees. Now they propose to appeal to the courts to keep us from knowing the truth. Why? What is there that they do not want us to know?"

Supervision is Needed
"My experience of the past year and a half has shown me very clearly the imperative need of knowing the packers' books."

"I propose to carry the matter to the courts. If through some imperfection in the law the contentions of the packers should be sustained then I think Congress will do what may be necessary to carry out its purpose to bring this great industry under adequate supervision."

New Executive Committee
The new A. F. B. F. Executive Committee of 12 members—three for each section of the United States—is as follows for the year 1924.

Central section, representing the middle west including Michigan—C. E. Hearst, Cedar Falls, Iowa; S. H. Thompson, Quincy, Ill.; Ralph Snyder, Manhattan, Kansas.

Western section: A. C. Hardison, Santa Paula, Cal.; Frank Evans, Salt Lake City, Utah; Chas. E. Gibson, Hooper, Colo.

Eastern section: Geo. M. Putnam, Concord, N. H.; Frank M. Smith, Springfield Center, N. Y.; S. McLean Buckingham, Watertown, Conn.

Southern section: E. P. Cahill, Hancock, Md.; Edw. A. O'Neal, Montgomery, Ala.; W. D. Farris, Effin, Texas.

"Congress has deemed the packing business vested with public interest and subject to supervision as such. The Supreme Court has held the act constitutional. The stock yards companies and the commission merchants are making no such difficulty about the examination of their books. They have given us full cooperation, and they have benefited by it. The packers' books are no more sacred than the books of these other agencies. They are no more sacred than the books of banks which are examined in the most thorough way by federal and state officials.

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T. A. FARRAND DEAD

Thousands of Michigan farmers who knew T. A. Farrand, fruit growing enthusiast of Eaton Rapids, and one of the best posted men in Michigan on horticultural matters, will mourn his sudden death at Detroit, December 12. He was a pioneer in Farm Bureau work in Eaton county and was connected with the early Eaton County Farm Bureau for several years. At one time he was superintendent of the state agricultural experiment station at South Haven. He was secretary of the State Horticultural society for several years and at the time of his death was extension specialist in horticulture for the Michigan Agricultural College. "T. A." was loved wherever he was known. His associates on the college faculty were pallbearers at the funeral, held from his farm home near Eaton Rapids. Mr. Farrand is survived by his wife and two sons, Warren and Cecil.

BLOC RENEWS TRUTH-IN-FABRICS CAMPAIGN

Washington, Dec. 12.—A new "truth-in-fabrics" bill was introduced in the United States Senate today by Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, sponsor of similar legislation in past sessions of Congress. His bill passed the Senate at its last session, but was held up in the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Senator Capper's new bill ranks high on the farm bloc's legislative program. Every effort will be made to secure its passage through both branches of Congress this winter. The State Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation are solidly behind this legislation, as it would be of great benefit to sheep raisers as well as to all purchasers of woolen goods.

FARM BUREAU SEEDS

Give the Results You Expect For Your Labor

They are reliable, northern grown and adapted to Michigan's rigorous climate; they are pure, hardy stock of known origin; they will grow and produce. We guarantee their origin, trueness to name, and purity.

Farm Bureau Brand seeds are quality seeds. The very best is none too good for Michigan farmers. That is the policy of the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

There is a positive shortage of American grown clover seed and Michigan-adapted alfalfa seed. Enormous imports of inferior foreign grown seeds are being made by some concerns to pad out scanty stocks of American grown seed.

You don't need to take the chance of getting any imported seed and a resulting crop loss if you play safe and buy Michigan State Farm Bureau Brand seeds now. We are doubtful if our supplies will hold out for "last minute" folks next spring. See your co-op now and demand Farm Bureau Brand seeds!

Buy Farm Bureau brand seeds and be sure.

Michigan State Farm Bureau

Seed Dep't.
Lansing, Michigan

Those women who have become acquainted with the superior quality of LILY WHITE FLOUR, "The Flour the Best Cooks Use," use it exclusively for every requirement of home baking.

VALLEY CITY MILLING COMPANY - GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

WALLACE APPROVES OUR CREDIT LAWS

Says Mich. Statutes Allow Us to Take Advantage of Intermediate Credit

Washington, Dec. 21.—The laws of Michigan are adequate to allow our farmers to take full advantage of the intermediate credit legislation passed by the last session of Congress, in the opinion of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, in a statement made public recently.

Loans made under the Intermediate Credit Law must have a maturity of not less than six months or more than three years, but for the present the Federal Farm Loan Board has made a ruling not to accept loans with a maturity of over nine months. The intermediate credit system of covering the missing link between the ordinary 90 day commercial paper and the long-time loans allowed under the Federal Farm Loan Act, which run for 33 and one-third years and are paid off in equal, annual payments.

"Under the Federal Intermediate Credit Act individual farmers may secure such U. S. credit through their local banks or their own co-operative associations where state laws authorize the formation of such associations and give them the necessary financial powers," the Secretary said.

"The laws of Michigan contain no specific provision for the formation of agricultural credit corporations, but the general corporation laws of that State are considered broad enough to permit the formation of farmers' credit corporations with ample powers to utilize the facilities of the intermediate credit banks."

Borrowing by individual farmers directly from the intermediate credit banks is not permitted under the Federal Agricultural Credits Act because of the extra expense, which would be felt in higher interest rates. Where existing facilities such as local banks are adequate for supplying farmers with intermediate credit it is not desirable to set up new credit concerns that will duplicate old ones. However, whatever is done in the way of co-operative marketing, farmers should get themselves in a position to take full advantage of the Agricultural Credits Act. Co-operative marketing requires intermediate credit for members of the co-operative associations individually, as well as for the associations in their business capacity, because frequently ownership of the commodities marketed remains with the farmer himself until the goods are finally sold. Co-operative associations are therefore greatly helped when they can discount the notes of their members, and make advances to them pending a final accounting when the marketing is done.

It is also noted that intermediate credit given to individual farmers, through financial agencies, enables them to utilize the improved storage facilities placed at their disposal under the Federal warehouse licensing act. This act and the intermediate credit system are dove-tail in their functions. The warehouse law provides for the licensing and bonding of public warehouses so that receipts issued against products stored therein will be good for security loans. Federal warehouse receipts are thus available for tapping the resources of the intermediate credit banks.

ENJOY FARM MOVIES
It is estimated that this year 4,460,000 persons enjoyed motion pictures distributed by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Many of these films have been shown in Michigan at County Farm Bureau and school meetings.

Let's Look At Seed Dep't Through A Member's Eyes

Things You Have Wondered About Are Answered Here

By MRS. EDITH M. WAGAR
Chairman, Farm Bur. Community Work

I have been particularly impressed with the Seed department of our State Farm Bureau. It is conducted at the building owned by our organization in Lansing.

I like to call on every Farm Bureau dept whenever I go to Farm Bureau headquarters in order to keep in as close touch with the work as possible. The seed dept seems to be the most attractive to me, for I can see the work as it is actually being done.

Cleaning Methods The Best
It is interesting to see clover seed of all kinds and of all qualities going through the necessary cleaning processes to bring out all the good seed, a product that can be guaranteed as 99 1/2 per cent pure by those in charge of the work. When I raised the question as to what might constitute the other 1/2 per cent, I learned that it was made up chiefly of other grass seed rather than any foul matter.

We find there the very best cleaning apparatus possible to obtain anywhere. Some of the seed sent to the Farm Bureau requires treatment in several different cleaning mills before it can be pronounced of perfect quality. It is very interesting to watch the different processes employed to remove the different weed seeds.

A walk through the store rooms, piled high on all sides with bags of seed, and a glimpse of the seed coming in,—some in small lots by individual farmers, some by truck loads from the co-ops and some by carlots, and—after that notice of the orders for seed being filled and delivered,—these things will convince one that this is a busy department, a necessary one. It proves that farmers are using it.

Kinds of Seed Service
Many farmers are consigning their seed and using the seed department as a sales agency, asking it to clean and properly prepare their seed for market, and to sell it when the demand and price is right in the judgment of the seed dept. If preferred this dept will sell within a stated time, as fixed by the member. It is just as the member desires.

Much seed is bought outright from members at the market price at the time.
Many farmers are sending their seed to the Farm Bureau, reserving a portion for their own use and putting the balance up for sale on one of the above plans.

Some seeds, such as Grimm and common alfalfa, come in large quantities from the northwestern states where they are grown as general crops. This seed is selected by our own specially trained seedsmen as it is harvested, so they know positively its origin. This seed they purchased is adapted to our Michigan soil and climate.

By securing this adapted seed, the dept. has always been able to keep a supply of good alfalfa seed on hand. Besides it has assisted us in creating a seed market in our adjoining states, which means a good market for our own surpluses.

Unusual Clover Situation
This year there is an alarming shortage of clover seed all over the seed producing sections of the U. S. so much so that it is known that there is available in American seed only about two-thirds of the clover seed that is used by this nation. At the same time it is known that southern Europe has a larger crop than

usual so it stands to reason that at least one-third of the seed sold in America for next spring will be of foreign origin.

All authorities tell us that the less hardy foreign seed will not survive in our country. It seems only reasonable that our farmers will want to secure seed from a source where a guarantee is given as to its purity and origin; this is the guarantee the Farm Bureau Seed department positively gives, and it absolutely will not handle any foreign seed in any way whatever. Seed is something that the farmer should satisfy himself about before he thinks of buying on the open market, for we fear the temptation will be too great for some persons to resist blending foreign seed with the Michigan or northwestern grown seed or perhaps worse—offering as home grown a strictly foreign, cheap quality of seed. They look alike.

Best is the Cheapest
I have heard some criticism about the difference in price of seeds from the Farm Bureau seed department and that offered by some local seedsmen. When one considers the facts from the viewpoint of proper cleaning, genuineness of the seed strain, and guarantee of origin as given by the Bureau, and the results we may expect, it will be seen that this seed is far the cheapest in the long run. While it may cost a little more at the beginning, it certainly will bring greater returns in the way of a crop, besides saving and protecting our time and energy.

When we hear of a growing number of people in other states looking to the Michigan Farm Bureau each year as a place to secure reliable seed we know we have accomplished much in establishing a market for one of our crops. We pride ourselves in being able to supply quality goods and this helps to establish a good reputation for Michigan seed.

A great share of our selling problems will be solved when we get every crop grown on our Michigan farms under a system where we can guarantee quality to the degree that makes quick sales.

When we consider the fact that during the period of one generation the number of weed seeds in this state has increased from 47 to 225, we can see there is no such thing as being too particular about demanding seed absolutely free from troublesome weeds. They are here and the only way to check their growth is to refuse to sow them as well as to make a determined effort to destroy those present.

A visit to the Farm Bureau Seed Dept sample room convinces one that the average person knows but little about the clover seed crop when one sees and hears explained the many kinds and qualities of seed. Then when we see the many kinds of weed seeds that are apt to be found in seed we appreciate the fact that if there should be no other reason for our organization, this one feature of a seed dept has made it worth while and we can truthfully urge our members to make full use of this service at your command.

Honor Michigan Boy At the International

(Continued from page 1)

of this building. This building dedicated as a boy and girl club member's headquarters is going to make us feel more at home and a part of the International Livestock Show.

"I can hardly imagine any organization or program such as ours is being a success without having a headquarters. The men who compose the National Committee for Club Work have realized the same thing and have therefore built this building. These men also realize that the rising generation that are doing things are the ones that they will have to depend on for the future success of their business and so they are taking this means of encouraging boys and girls to be not only farmers, but better farmers. These men are going to expect that when we become mature livestock breeders that we will bring our stock to the show and help them to make their show a success. So to show these men that we appreciate their efforts, I am hoping that we may cooperate with them in time to come.

"We owe a great deal to Mr. Noble, who is Executive Secretary of the organization, for the good times we are going to have this week, and in behalf of the 1500 boy and girl club members who are here representing many States of the Union, I wish to thank the organization and management that has made possible the erection of this building for our use, and the interest they take in our club work."

Legislature Gives Up; Goes Back Home

(Continued from page one)

duties which the Constitution specifically conferred upon them. Were you interested then?"
Finding it impossible to apply the reapportionment provisions of the Constitution satisfactorily to the present conditions of the state, the House sent a respectful message to the Governor requesting him to submit a supplementary message permitting the consideration of a Constitutional amendment, to be submitted to the people, providing for a change in the basis of apportionment. There is a wide spread feeling that representation should be on the basis of citizenship, rather than the total population and also that the total number of senators and representatives from any one county should be strictly limited by the Constitution.

But Governor Groesbeck flatly refused to allow the Legislature to consider any such proposal. Worse still, he also withheld his consent for the consideration of the pressing problems of highway financing and the gas tax, for which he professed to have such a friendly feeling a few weeks ago. Now a majority of the House members seem to feel that he is interested only in getting greater control in the hands of Wayne county, and they do not like that.

Rep. Floyd Rowe of Hillsdale expressed pretty nearly the feelings of most of the farmer members, when after reminding the House of the misdeeds of the Wayne members and particularly of their opposition to all tax reform, he said, "I do not wish to be a party to any move which will allow one county to dictate the affairs of 83 counties. I do not believe that that would be for the best interests of Wayne county, and I am sure it would be most harmful to the state at large."

There are many of the more conservative citizens of Detroit who are inclined to feel the same way about it. They are perfectly satisfied to have their laws made by a Legislature with a liberal representation from the rural districts. Even Governor Groesbeck himself is quoted as saying not long ago that Detroit might far better concern itself with the quality of the members which it sends to the Legislature, rather than how for an increased quantity.

Right or wrong, the Legislature went home leaving things just as they were. They refused to permit the seal to wag the dog. The special session cost the State considerably over \$1,000 for each of the 16 days it lasted.

Variella's Creampot of the Jersey herd owned by H. F. Probert, Jackson County Farm Bureau member, has been made a silver medal cow by the American Jersey Cattle Club. She produced 3,214 pounds of milk and 507.05 pounds of fat in 365 days at 2 years and 2 months.

After Jan. 1, 1924, ship your poultry, eggs, dressed hogs and veal to the Farm Bureau Produce Exch. at its new address, 2610-16 Riopelle St., Detroit, for best and prompt returns.

BUSINESS NEWS

3c a word per insertion for 3 or more insertions; 3 1/2c a word for each of 2 insertions; 4c a word for one insertion. Count each word, abbreviation and figure, including words in signature, as words. Cash must accompany ordering. Mich. Farm Bureau News.

FOR SALE—POULTRY FARM, completely equipped. Must be seen to be appreciated. For particulars, write MALCOLM WHITE, POULTRY FARM, Caro, Mich. 19-4

DO YOU WANT TO INCREASE YOUR egg production? Our Prof. Foreman strain Barred Rock and White Rock cockerels will do it. 4c each while they last. J. V. Sheap, Qwaso, Mich. 12-13-23b

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Poultrymen Plan Further Study of Co-op Marketing

Urge Use of Farm Bur. Prod. Exchange at Detroit as First Logical Step

Plans for a comprehensive study of Michigan's egg and poultry marketing needs and for the adoption of a constructive and conservative program for the solution of these problems were laid down at a meeting of poultrymen and marketing specialists held at the State Farm Bureau headquarters at Lansing, December 12th.

This committee conference was an outgrowth of the Poultry Producers' meeting held recently at Grand Rapids, and instructed to make further study and investigation and adopt such plans of procedure as they should decide were warranted.

Methods and results of co-operative egg and poultry marketing in other states were given careful study at the recent Lansing meeting. It was agreed that the most logical solution of the problem would be to establish local associations in communities where there is a sufficient volume of business to make it a practical proposition. These local units would then be grouped into districts for grading and standardization purposes. The final step would be the federating of the districts into a central state-wide organization.

Delegates were agreed that while no doubt some such organization is needed, especially in certain parts of the state, and while the desired results would of course be very much worth while, still they realized fully they would encounter serious difficulties and they therefore should be absolutely sure that their plans were sound and workable before launching any big campaign. It was agreed that any such program should be based upon definite contracts which would insure a definite volume and fortify any organization during its period of experimentation when it would no doubt meet strong competition which might prove ruinous if there were no contracts.

No definite date was set for the next meeting of this committee because it could not accurately predict how long it would take to make a complete study of the different plans for co-operative marketing of eggs and poultry as recently adopted and now in practice in some other states. It was realized that some little delay would be necessary to allow the M. A. C. Markets Dept. and State Farm Bureau time in which to finish work upon which their staffs of field workers are now engaged and to carry out a program of publicity which would point out the needs for

such an organization and prepare the way for a strong organization campaign.

Gives Timely Advice
Mr. O. L. Miner, of Dowagiac, chairman of the committee, offers the following timely suggestions to all co-op managers and shippers of eggs and poultry:

"First, formulate plans now to handle these commodities on a strictly co-operative basis, shipping them to the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange, because if they are not already handling them co-operatively the practice will help the managers, their patrons and the salesmen of the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange at Detroit and all concerned to become fully acquainted with the problems and profit thereby. Complete organization may change details for handling these commodities, but the principles will remain the same.

"Second, remember that it is the wish of this committee to get all the information possible concerning the interest in different sections of the state in an organization such as has been outlined above. Address all inquiries to J. A. Hannah, Poultry Dept., M. A. C., or to O. L. Miner,

manager of the Dowagiac Farmers Co-operative Ass'n."
It was pointed out at the meeting that if the intermediate handling charges could be kept down so that a moderate price to consumer would result the demand for poultry products would be greatly strengthened. Those who attended the recent meeting included: O. L. Miner, Dowagiac; W. C. Eckard, Paw Paw; J. B. Devereaux, Hastings; and Mrs. R. S. Rathmer, Battle Creek, members of the poultrymen's committee; Hale Crenshaw, Gifford Patch Jr. and W. C. Cribbs of the M. A. C. Markets Dept.; Roswell Carr, Ass't. State Leader of County Agents; and C. L. Brody, C. H. Runciman and Alfred Bental of the State Farm Bureau.

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This overcoat is made in the standard Chesterfield style. It's all wool, full lined and warm, has the regular small collar, and no belt. It comes in black only. To find quickly the small men who can wear these sizes, we are offering these coats at the bargain price of \$15 each, postage prepaid, and your money back if the coat should be unsatisfactory. These overcoats hardly could be bought elsewhere today for \$30. They will go quickly. If we have your size, we have a bargain for you. Order yours today.

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For further information, write us. See that your next shipment and succeeding shipments are billed to us. We remit promptly on arrival.

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Fill out the blank at bottom of circular, and the pearls will come by insured parcel post in a richly lined box. If you do not find the pearls as represented, return them within ten days and get your money back.

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