

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU NEWS

Published by the Michigan State Farm Bureau for its Membership

VOL. I, No. 4

FEBRUARY 23, 1923

Issued Semi-Monthly

Your Neighbors in Farm Bureau get the NEWS

Issued Semi-Monthly

CASE RAILROADS INFLATED MILEAGE

Shippers at Lamb One to Help

Michigan Traffic to abolish inflated defendants in the a supplement to mileage and rate use points in the supplement was

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exchanges Helped ig to the shippers m Bureau-Traffic are largely due to t and co-operation by marketing ex- an. At the Public ion hearing last n Potato Growers an Elevator Ex- Live Stock Ex- Milk Producers As- gan's co-operative reduced witnesses on page 4)

FOR EXCH. N SITUATION it took a drop this s are today paying t \$7.00 for their e seems to be a ld net the farmer p. We hear a lot to the farmer and e reached, but we ken now on beans ed.

the fact that arriving most ev- of New York while California s in New York at per hundred while York is 52 to 55 t prices on beans armer bringing in

WOOL POOL WILL RESUME SERVICE FIRST OF MARCH

WILL GRADE AT LANSING THIS YEAR TO CUT HANDLING COSTS

PROSPECTS VERY GOOD

Successes of 1922 Pool and Early Returns Show What Can be Done

The Michigan State Farm Bureau will pool wool in 1923. Arrangements have been made for acceptance of early wool at the Farm Bureau's Wool Department at Lansing any time after March 1.

The Board of Delegates at the fifth annual meeting of the Farm Bureau endorsed a 1923 Farm Bureau wool pool.

Successes of the 1922 pool and early returns made indicate that the 1923 pool will be considerably larger than that of 1922. Preparations are being made to handle well over a million pounds. In that case handling charges should be reduced considerably. Reduction of handling charges will stand foremost in management of the 1923 pool.

Stations Lining Up

Co-operative associations at Hudson, Onsted, Tecumseh, Ida, and Plymouth in Lenawee, Monroe and Wayne counties are going to act as assembling agents for the 1923 wool pool in their respective communities. Arrangements are under way in other counties.

A first step in reducing handling charges will be the grading of all wools at the Wool Department at Lansing instead of grading at local assembling stations as was done last year. The Farm Bureau will have the same grader, Squire Robinson, in charge. He has given excellent satisfaction in other years. His grades are accepted everywhere without question.

Sworn weigh masters will accept wool at local assembling stations on dates to be announced later and will give the grower pooling a receipt which will entitle him to the usual cash advance. This cash advance is 50 per cent of the market value of the wool.

Are Coming Back

Letters from men who pooled in 1922 and profited thereby indicate that all of those men will be loyal boosters again this season. Some of their letters have been published in the Michigan Farm Bureau News. Many others have said that 1923 would find them in the pool again.

Wool will be shipped from local assembling points to the Michigan State Farm Bureau in carefully labeled bags. The wool grower will have a receipt for his clip and his cash advance, the same as was true last year. This year we will save the transportation of grading crews to and from local assembling points and will be able to get along with fewer graders.

Some Extra Services

Wool graders who shear early will be furnished wool bags upon their request to the Wool Department at Lansing. They may ship direct to Lansing any time after March 1. Growers who will pool at local assembling stations later and want to sack their wool at time of shearing will also be furnished sacks upon request and statement of about how much wool they will have.

Wool markets are in a very healthy condition at present. Considerable effort has been made by many firms to contract wool on the sheep's back, but very few growers have signed up.

The co-operation of every wool grower is needed to make the 1923 pool the success it ought to be. In 1922 the pool opened May 1, sold out November 28th. Every grower had his check by December 10. The pool returned 39.14 cents net to the grower for the five better grades of wool and 34 1/2 cents net for all 13 grades including tags, bucks and discounts. The average price paid farmers by local dealers as reported to the U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimates by local crop reporters, was 31 1/2 cents net.

Got 6 to 9 Cents More

Many of the 1922 wool poolers wrote the Farm Bureau that the pool return was six to nine cents better than what they were offered locally. These letters have been published in the News.

Don't forget that your Farm Bureau wool pool management and finances are completely under control of the State Farm Bureau. No commissions are paid. The manager on a salary. All responsible persons connected with the pool management are adequately bonded. The Bureau will be able to make as quick returns in 1923 when the wool is sold as it did in 1922.

Local wool pool assembling dates will be published in an early edition of the News. Watch for them.

Farmer's Dollar Worth But 65c When He Buys

LIVE STOCK EXCH. IS GOING STRONG

ANNUAL MEETING HEARS OF MARKETING SUCCESSES AT DETROIT

Two new members were added to the Board of Directors of the Michigan Live Stock Exchange and the entire 1922 Board was re-elected at the annual meeting of the Exchange, held at Lansing, Feb. 16.

Interesting reports were made to the delegates on the continued growth in numbers and strength of the Exchange locals and the progress made by their Co-operative Commission House in Detroit, established in May, 1922. The Detroit house is marketing about 30% of the stock coming into the Detroit yards and is giving its members very good service. For seven months' business up to Jan. 1, 1923, the Detroit house showed a surplus of about \$10,000, which represents savings made for members.

F. J. Ketter, manager of the Ohio Livestock Shippers Association, which is co-operating with Michigan and Indiana shippers in the Buffalo Producers Commission House, told of the services given by that association.

C. H. Runciman of Lowell and L. E. Willett of Laingsburg were the new directors elected to the Board to broaden its representation. Directors elected were E. A. Beamer of Blissfield; J. H. O'Meloy, Pittsford; P. M. Granger, Charlotte; Verne Tracy, Ithaca; George Boutelle, Detroit; E. E. Compton, Lansing; W. J. Perry, Grand Blanc.

FARMERS WIN FEDERAL TILT

SECY WALLACE KEEPS ROADS, MARKETS DEPT'S WHERE THEY BELONG

The American Farm Bureau Federation says the farmers are inquiring concerning the progress of the Walter G. Brown plan for reorganization of the departments of the Federal Government. They remember the widely published announcement of a year or so ago that the Brown program called for the transfer of a number of bureaus in which they are vitally interested.

Secy's Fall Quits

The resignation of Secretary of Interior Fall lends color to the belief that the Forestry Service will remain in the Department of Agriculture where the farmers say it belongs. Likewise they are inclined to believe that the Bureau of Public Roads will not be transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the new Department of Public Works, but they have no concrete evidence to back up their opinion.

The differences between the President and his cabinet seem to have been boiled down to altercation between the Secretaries of Agriculture and Commerce.

Various reports on the Brown plan have stated that it called for the shifting of the Bureau of Markets, now the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, to the Department of Commerce. Secretary Wallace is on public record as being against the transfer of any of this work; Secretary Hoover does not seem to have expressed himself. The farmer wants to know what the Secretary of Commerce is demanding of the President and whether he is likely to get it or not.

The American Farm Bureau Federation has gone on record as favoring the retention of the Bureau of Markets by the Department of Agriculture.

ORANGEVILLE SAVES ON FARM BUREAU POTASH

Orangeville township Farm Bureau in Barry County holds regular monthly meetings and the people of that community have secured much valuable information. A portion of Orangeville township located in what is known as Gunn Marsh—muck land on the Barry-Allegan County line—where about 700 carloads of onions and a large amount of celery are raised every year. Recently these people bought 125 tons of the State Farm Bureau's Muriate of Potash at a satisfactory saving.

John C. Killick is the live Orangeville township Farm Bureau president who has made arrangements for these meetings and has done the personal work necessary to make them interesting. March 17 the women have charge of the program for an all day meeting.

"There is no substitute for but-terfat."—Dr. Sherman of Columbia University.

PRES. BRADFUTE SAYS LACK OF FARM MARKETING SYSTEM DID IT

By O. E. BRADFUTE, Pres. Am. Farm Bur. Federation

Address delivered before Illinois Agricultural Ass'n. (Farm Bureau). The American farmer is the most efficient farmer in the world. The farmer of no other nation is comparable with him. He handles 30 acres to Russia's 9, France's 7 and Japan's 1 1/2. In the last decade we have increased our farm efficiency 25 per cent.

In Illinois the income is about \$2,034 per farm. Agriculture is back to normal in production; we stand in production about where we did before the war. But never have we been in such straits as today. Why?

When We're Stuck If we traded among ourselves—hogs for cattle, cattle for wheat, wheat for corn—we'd be in good shape. The exchange values on the farm stand at pre-war.

When we trade with other fellows we get into difficulty, hogs for dry goods, corn for groceries.

Dollar Is Half-Dollar Say that a young beef cattle farmer wants to get married. His beef cattle dollar is worth only 50 cents when traded for house furnishings. When we trade hogs for fuel the hog dollar is worth only 48 cents. When we trade wheat for clothing, the wheat dollar is worth only 67 cents. When we trade corn for lumber the corn dollar is worth only 60 cents. (Continued on page 3)

TEN LBS. MORE WITH MILKMAKER

FARM BUREAU RATION BOOSTS PRODUCTION FOR ALLEGAN CO. MEMBER

Wayland, Mich., R. 2, February 15, 1923. Michigan State Farm Bureau, Lansing, Michigan.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter I can say I am still feeding Michigan Farm Bureau Milkmaker with good results.

I first started in with 100 pound sack and fed it to one cow and she gave so much more milk that I bought 500 pounds and went to feeding 5 cows, using half ground corn and oats and half Milkmaker. At the end of 10 days my cows had gained from 3 to 4 pounds a day each. Then I gradually took away the corn and oats and added a little more Milkmaker until I was feeding 1 pound of it to every 4 pounds of milk and I had one cow that was giving 48 to 50 pounds a day. When the Milkmaker was fed out I couldn't purchase any more for 10 days and I had to fall back on corn, oats, bran and cottonseed and my best producer dropped from 48 and 50 pounds a day down to 40 pounds and I finally got 1,000 pounds more of Milkmaker and my best producer is back to 47 pounds a day. I give credit to Michigan Farm Bureau Milkmaker.

The man who figured out that ration knew his business.

Yours very truly, (Signed) ORVILLE MORRIS.

DAIRY CO-OP WILL TRIPLE ITS VOLUME

The Litchfield Dairy Association has voted to increase the capacity of their Co-op creamery from 2,000 lbs. to 6,000 lbs. weekly. The Association will build a new building and install new equipment which will involve the expenditure of \$25,000. It is one of the best creameries in the state and is noted for its high quality butter.

"The white race cannot survive without dairy products," Herbert Hoover.

NOTICE TO CO-OPS.

It will be to your advantage to advise E. L. Ewing, State Farm Bureau Traffic Counsel, Murray Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich., in full detail about any difficulties you may have had in getting refrigerator cars since November 1, 1922.

This notice applies to all Farm Bureau locals and co-operative associations. The Farm Bureau is studying our refrigerator car situation.

FARM BUREAU TO FIGHT RATE CASE AT WASHINGTON

I. C. C. WILL HEAR FINAL ARGUMENTS BY MICHIGAN SHIPPERS FEBRUARY 28

NEED LOWER RATES

Farm Bureau Provides Farmers' An Organization to Fight for Rights

The Michigan State Farm Bureau will appear before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington February 28th, when Traffic Counsel E. L. Ewing presents the Farm Bureau's final arguments for a reduction in Michigan freight rates on farm products and for doing away with Michigan's burdensome zoning system.

An Important Case This case is of the greatest importance to those who pay Michigan's freight bills. It means about \$2,000,000 to them. The Farm Bureau has been fighting the case for farmer shippers for nearly a year through the Michigan Traffic League—Farm Bureau zone and rate case. The Bureau prepared the farmers' case and has financed the fight.

The case was fought out before the Michigan Public Utilities Commission in a six weeks' hearing last May and June. The Farm Bureau found itself pitted against the best railroad attorneys in Michigan. We produced 40 witnesses from as many agricultural counties and proved that present Michigan rates are crippling the farmers' business and that the zoning system, which establishes a step-ladder system of rates as one goes north, puts our central and northern Michigan farmers at a disadvantage to farmer shippers of other states. Our men pay extra freight coming and going.

Most of the above witnesses were County Agricultural Agents and they knew what they were talking about. Efforts of the railroad attorneys to involve these men so that they would contradict themselves resulted in a hasty retreat to the rear for the railroad attorneys in several instances. The railroads experienced similar discomforts in attempting to tear down testimony offered by Michigan State Farm Bureau business departments and the Michigan Elevator Exchange.

Because of their Farm Bureau organization, Michigan farmers were able to present the strongest argument for railroad rate justice that was ever presented by Michigan farmers. They won some concessions during the hearing and it is believed that we shall obtain very substantial concessions when the Interstate Commerce Commission hands down its decision.

WAYNE CO. ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Vice-Pres. Noon to Speak, Movies Will be Shown.

Wayne county people are showing much interest in a series of community meetings planned for the week of February 26th. These are to be general get-together meetings to discuss present day problems. There will be some educational motion pictures and addresses by M. L. Noon, vice-president of the Michigan State Farm Bureau. Mr. Noon is also a director of the Michigan Milk Producers' Association and no one in Michigan is better able to lead such discussions.

Schedule of Meetings. Flat Rock—Monday evening, Feb. 26, at the Macabee Hall. Inkster—Tuesday evening, Feb. 27, at Inkster Church. Plymouth—Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, at the High School Auditorium. Sheldon—Thursday, afternoon, March 1, at Sheldon Hall. The Ladies Aid will serve dinner at noon. Meeting begins at one o'clock.

Bellevue—Thursday evening, March 1, at the Grange Hall.

Discuss Economical Production of Pork

Economical pork production was discussed with 450 Hillsdale county farmers recently by V. A. Freeman, animal husbandry specialist from M. A. C., and County Agricultural Agent Roy Weinberg of the Hillsdale County Farm Bureau. Size of litter, parasite control, feeding mixtures, minerals needed, market types and round worm control were discussed. The work on round worm control was illustrated by a two reel motion picture from the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. The matter of parasite control is a real problem among hog men. There and elsewhere, and deserves our most careful attention.

Named For State Bd. of Agriculture

Clark L. Brody, secretary-manager of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, was nominated to succeed himself as a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and Herbert W. Gowdy, fruit grower of Union Pier, Mich., was also nominated to the Board by the Republican State Convention at Flint, Feb. 21. The Board of Agriculture is the governing body of the Michigan Agricultural College.



Mr. Gowdy has represented the first district of Berrien county in the Legislature for two sessions. He was born at Union Pier and has made his home there. He is a prominent fruit grower and is well qualified to represent Michigan farmers on their State Board of Agriculture.



Mr. Brody was appointed to the Board of Agriculture in late 1921 to succeed John W. Beaumont of Detroit, resigned. Mr. Brody's appointment to the board gave Michigan farmers what they have wanted for the Michigan Agricultural College for years, an all-farmer board of control. Delegates to the State Farm Bureau's Fifth Annual meeting adopted a resolution endorsing Mr. Brody to succeed himself as a member of the board.

State Sheep Dipping Law May Be Amended

Rep. Edward G. Read of Richland, one of Michigan's leading sheep feeders, introduced a bill in the House to exempt feeder sheep and lambs from the provisions of the present law requiring dipping for all sheep brought into Michigan. Dipping of feeder sheep is not being enforced at present, Michigan feeders having protested that the law was intended to apply only to breeding stock being brought into the state.

WOULD LIMIT SCHOOL BONDS TO 15 YEARS

Long time school bonds are not approved by Rep. David H. Butler of Fostoria who would limit the maturity of school district bonds to 15 years. The last Legislature increased the time for complete amortization of such bonds to 30 years.

HAVE STRONG CO-OP.

The Mason County Co-operative Marketing Association has plans under way for a reorganization as a non-profit stock company under Act 84. The company is in good condition financially and has about \$50,000 invested in property. The stock company plan will enable it to secure a larger working capital and operate up to the full value of its assets.

MONROE COUNTY BOOSTERS SET FOR CAMPAIGN

REPORT 125 DRIVERS SIGNED AT RALLY HELD AT IDA FEB. 17

CAMPAIGN OPENS FEB. 26

Bureau's Seed Dep't Boosts Monroe's Alfalfa Seed Value \$10,000

One hundred Monroe County Farm Bureau boosters held a big meeting Feb. 17 to get ready for their second membership campaign which starts Feb. 26. To date 125 men have volunteered to drive solicitors in their respective townships and have renewed their Farm Bureau membership for another three years. Frank Dexter of Milan is managing the campaign.

At the booster meeting Russell Knapp, banker of Ida, told his appreciation of the Farm Bureau movement and County Agricultural Agent work and endorsed the program. Mr. D. L. Chapman of Berlin township, from whence comes Michigan's Monroe County alfalfa seed, said that the Farm Bureau Seed Department put about \$10,000 into the pockets of their alfalfa seed producers this fall. Local buyers tried to buy the crop at \$7.50 a bushel. The State Farm Bureau began taking on the seed and advertising it and marketing it and took some 3,000 bushels at an average of \$11.50 a bushel. This action also forced the local buyers to come up where they should have been in the first place.

Fred Drodt, manager of the Ida Farm Bureau local spoke highly of the work of the Farm Bureau purchasing department.

Secretary-manager C. L. Brody of the State Farm Bureau discussed the services given by the state organization.

WASHTENAW CAMPAIGN TOPS OTHER COUNTIES

Despite the coldest weather of the winter the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau started its second Farm Bureau membership campaign during the week of Feb. 12th and signed more members per day than has been done in any other county—since the second membership campaigns started last August. This was done under conditions which made it necessary to depend on teams to get out into the country instead of the old and reliable fivers which have been used in all the campaigns. The Washtenaw campaign continued through the week of Feb. 19 and will be followed by the Monroe campaign.

BEANS REACH HIGHEST PRICE FOR THE CROP

Mich. Elev. Exchg. Sees Wisdom in Selling at This Time

The bean market reached its peak for this year's crop during the past week when beans were sold at \$8.25 f. o. b. shipping point.

Although the high price was offered there has been very little selling done by the elevators, who in turn report that although they have advanced their paying price to the farmer, the farmer continues to hold his beans.

We think that it would be advisable for farmers to take advantage of the present high prices now being offered for beans. It is all right to plan in getting higher prices but you must remember that each day sees us getting closer to hot weather. Another six weeks will see fresh vegetables in sale in the south which will certainly have a tendency to restrict the sale of beans in that territory.

Beans have been a crop for the farmers this year and they have received good prices for them. Each farmer must remember his neighbor is probably holding as many beans as he is and if every one decides to sell at the same time a lower market is sure to result. We don't expect to see a big drop in beans but on the other hand we can't see what will cause a big advance over present prices.

T. B. Clean-Up Plan Has Strong Support

Prospects are bright for legislative support for the program of bovine tuberculosis eradication in Michigan. The Agricultural Committee of the House has reported favorably the bill to provide a \$200,000 emergency appropriation to pay back claims and finance the campaign for the rest of the year and also the measure to slightly reduce the state award on condemned cattle to conform to the federal statute, and allow for co-operation with the county authorities.

MARKE

As Report
Mar

SEED

By Farm Bureau Seed

RED CLOVER.
Markets continue inact early as yet to form an opinion as to the volume of it is to come for spring sowings. All indications point to eastern trade which has been supplied to a considerable extent with foreign clover continue to be reported from more and New York in a way. Shipments from the east are practically en up by embargoes laid down heavy snow fall in eastern Toledo market closed Feb at \$13.30.

ALSIKE.
Last week passed in Tole any trade reported, accordi port from a reliable source, ther states there does not be any demand, although the fored at is \$5.00 under r Stocks in the country, must er large although no termin seems to have any great vol

TIMOTHY.
Stock in terminal market less than in recent ye some timothy has gone for e amount has not reached a proportion. Holders are exp spring demand to be good a work higher when the tra However, it is a question of The situation on alfalfa, s ver, etc., is unchanged since report in these columns.

GRAIN-MARK

By Mich. Elevator Exch

OATS.
We still believe oats are t although the demand is di should do better within t thirty or sixty days.

WHEAT.
Still in an uncertain posi have more wheat in the States than we will consum

Farm Accou

County Agent Wm. F. ston of Wexford County h boys and girls thinking of farm problems. Under his ership nine consolidated s have been giving course practical farm accounting, students kept records and mitted reports on the a operations and problem their home farms.

We submit herewith the ning report made by Miss othy M. Smith of Manton kept the accounts on a there. Miss Smith's victo titled her to a free tr Farmers' Week at M. A. C STORY OF MY ACCOUNT

By Dorothy M. Smith
"The benefits to be derive farm accounting are many. business farmer in the United could testify that his business out a strict method of acc would be no business. "I will point out a few fact from my book.

Number of hens 50.
Monthly averages for ea are as follows:
Jan. 1.54 eggs; Feb. 2.19; 6.12; April, 14; May, 16; Jun July, 12.5; Aug., 11; Sept., 7 4; Nov., 1; Dec., .6.

"During the months of Aug., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., March the egg production wa low. During the above eight n the 50 hens produced 986 eggs, average of 19.7 eggs per he in other words each hen pro one egg every 12.3 days. Egg ing this period are worth \$0.04. Therefore, each hen a low average for the 240 days in about \$0.80. Her cost an keep averages approximately for the same time. This lea profit of \$0.20 for each hen d this period of high prices an egg production.

Recommends Culling
It is quite evident that the n ty of the flock was getting a ride, while a few hens were the work. This flock has never culled and I believe that elimination would not affect the production and lower the fe cost 50% which would amount a net profit of \$0.50 instead of \$ for each hen. This is a peric high prices and I feel that th also the time that egg produ should be given a great deal of sideration.

In commenting on the repot her dairy operations, Miss S writes, "The cows show a loss though a decreased inventory of gives a misconception regarding true worth of the cows. This l brings out the fact that somet is radically wrong with the dairy of this farm. It could be on many things. It might be we take a milk test of each cow, should be done before starting t ness for another year.

Better Ration Needed
"For instance in the month Jan. 1922, the three cows and calf received 1200 lbs. of m hay; 100 lbs. of fodder and 229 of grain (corn). Supposing this all fed to three cows, the follow would be the daily ration for cow:
Mixed hay 13.3 lbs.
Grain 2.5 lbs.
Corn Fodder 1.1 lbs.

"This would be a first class tion for a two-year-old steer, for a cow that is supposed to pay way it is far from satisfactory. e nutritive ratio of this ration o one part of protein to 8.5 parts carbohydrate, and 11.5 parts

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU NEWS

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E. E. UNGREN Editor

MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU

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WHAT OF THE GAS TAX?

No other proposed taxation change has aroused nearly as much comment and discussion as the gasoline tax proposition. No other measure is praised so much for its fairness and at the same time opposed so vigorously.

The Michigan State Farm Bureau Board of Delegates, acting for the membership, has placed the Bureau definitely on record for a straight two cents a gallon gasoline tax by this resolution:

"Resolved, that we believe that in the main the amount of gasoline consumed is in proportion to the use derived from the public highways and is a logical basis for taxation; and we therefore favor a tax of two cents a gallon on gasoline in Michigan to raise funds for interest and retirement of the state's highway bonds."

The great volume of gasoline consumed in Michigan is used for automobile and truck transportation on the public highways. This fact is beyond dispute. The automobile has caused the insistent demand for a greatly enlarged program of highway development. To meet this demand the Legislature has authorized the issuance of \$50,000,000 of state highway bonds, \$30,000,000 of which has already been issued. No adequate provision has been made for the retirement of these outstanding bonds. We'll have to pay them. Our real estate will foot the bill unless we get help from those who use the roads. The automobile has also brought us a tremendous increased road repair and maintenance cost. Therefore, it is just that the automobile should contribute accordingly to defray highway expenses.

It is reasonable that the amount of such contribution should be in proportion to the use of the highway by each automobile. The gasoline tax automatically takes care of the mileage driven and the weight of the car—the two factors contributing to wear and tear of highways by automobiles.

It is logical too that the man who drives his car 15,000 miles per year should pay three times as much into the highway fund as his neighbor who drives his car only 5,000 miles. The present license fee system charges each alike for the same car. Opponents of a gas tax advocate an increased auto license fee to provide additional revenue for highway purposes. It is hard to understand how such a proposal would operate with any great degree of fairness to those who drive their cars but a little.

Neighboring states either have gasoline taxes or are in the process of getting them. Michigan autoists touring in those states help pay for their roads, and fairly so. Should not the tourists who are yearly coming to Michigan resorts in increasing numbers, causing great highway depreciation, make some contribution to our highway expense account? A gasoline tax is the only solution to this growing problem.

OPPORTUNITIES IN FARM BUREAU WORK

Anyone attending the fifth annual meeting of the Michigan State Farm Bureau could not fail to be impressed with the high class character and ability of the delegates.

Then, too, when it is considered that these 130 men constituted but a sample of the thousands of live Farm Bureau workers and leaders in the 73 County Farm Bureaus represented, some idea of the real fabric of the State Farm Bureau can be gained. The delegates and members at East Lansing February 1-2 certainly reflect the quality and live interest of the membership back home and I believe no other organization, farmers or otherwise, has ever attracted a higher class of individuals.

The discussion of the various resolutions and questions before the meeting showed a splendid knowledge of public and governmental issues as well as purely agricultural matters. The extemporaneous debates and speeches would have been a credit to any meeting of business or professional men.

In fact, what else could be expected? Doesn't the successful farmer have to think continually about the problems of agriculture and exercise the best of judgment to meet the emergencies that confront him almost every day? He is not making the 16th part of a pin or some certain part of a machine day after day or falling into the machine like routine that characterizes many positions or businesses in the city.

The ability shown at the annual meeting has always been on the farm to a greater or less extent, but we have not always had a medium through which it could find expression and development.

The Farm Bureau organization constitutes one of the best opportunities ever before the capable young man on the farm to build himself up to greater usefulness and enjoyment.

Activity prompted by a real heartfelt interest in local co-operative or County Farm Bureau organizations is the route by which our best leadership is coming. It is up to us farmers to do the job ourselves, and we will.

THE COUNTY FARM BUREAU'S WORK

The County Farm Bureau today is more essential to agricultural progress than ever before. In these days of State Farm Bureau and co-operative business activities it sometimes seems that we lose sight of the indispensable part played by the County Farm Bureau.

Its true function is to develop the agricultural resources of the county in such a way that the greatest good for the greatest number of people will be accomplished.

A well balanced program including both production and marketing is essential to this result. Its object is not to indiscriminately increase production regardless of whether there is a satisfactory market for the product or not. Neither can it confine its activities to purely marketing projects.

On the contrary, we farmers through our County Farm Bureaus and County Agents aim to increase the efficiency of agriculture, making it safer and more serviceable while along marketing lines the real work is to teach sound systems of organization and good business methods.

An efficient system of marketing must precede or go along with standardization, improvement of quality, and general efficiency of production. It should be remembered that as a result of the information the County Farm Bureau has made available many a local co-operative association and has been organized and kept functioning that otherwise would never have been organized or would have failed.

Then again, taking up the other side of the question, the County Farm Bureau has made possible the County Agricultural Agent. As a result of the work of the Bureau and the County Agent, many a child is now drinking tuberculosis free milk, numerous scrub bulls have ceased to multiply their kind, poor cows have been eliminated, hog cholera is being controlled, the quality and yield of farm crops have been improved, and many a family has been enabled to have electric lights and bath room conveniences.

All of these features are essential to the business success of both farmer and merchant, and they emphasize the importance of carrying out a well balanced program in which marketing and production are combined in proper relationships. The County Farm Bureau and County Agricultural Agent makes this possible. May they live long and prosper!

What the Public Thinks

Of the Michigan State Farm Bureau's Fifth Annual Meeting

The following items taken from the press show how the public recognizes the Farm Bureau as the modern farmer's means of expressing himself and getting things done that should be done. These newspapers had representatives at the Michigan Farm Bureau's fifth annual meeting. Every point in the Grand Rapids Press editorial on the repeal of the Covert Law was brought out and discussed by Farm Bureau delegates in their meeting. The Chicago Packer represents the Chicago fruit and produce markets.

THE COVERT LAW

The Covert law provides the authorization on which county road commissions build numerous connecting highways throughout Michigan. For several years the farmers have been demanding certain revisions to protect them in its application; and now that they have despaired of getting these revisions they are coming out for repeal of the law.

When the abuses of the Covert law are appreciated their viewpoint is certain to draw sympathy. There is the case of a resort proprietor, for example, prevailing upon the commissioners to run a road across half a dozen farms to his sylvan spot, the farmers both pro and con paying the shot. In some instances it is reported farmers have sold off the timber and let their farms return to the state for taxes rather than stand the high tax. In other interesting cases political log-rolling—the average road commission seems particularly devoted to this type of activity—is resorted to in order to induce supervisors to do as the boards desire. Kent county's experiences are well-known. The "we'll-pave-a-mile-in-your-township" bait is a sample.

What the farmers have asked is that the county supervisors should make the final decision on all roads recommended by the road commissions. They think this is a sufficient safeguard for local interests and for the county funds. The legislature has paid too little attention to their demands, and now the whole law—much of which the farmers approve—is under fire as a final desperate move. Repeal can still be avoided by revision.—Editorial in Grand Rapids Press, Feb. 10, 1923.

Farm Bureau Scores

Roads for Car Shortage

East Lansing, Mich., Feb. 9.—Failure of railroads to supply cars for the movement of farm products was roundly scored at the annual meeting here last Friday of the Michigan State Farm Bureau. It instructed its traffic department to petition the Interstate Commerce Commission for an emergency order, directing railroad to divert cars into Michigan immediately for the movement of potatoes.

The bureau also called upon the railroads to make plans for the proper handling of Michigan fruits and other perishable products. It went on record in favor of reasonable regulation of commercial bus and truck lines, recommending that they be placed under the supervision of the State Public Utilities Commission the same as any other common carrier.—From the Chicago Packer, Chicago, Ill.

Opposes Filled Milk

The Department of Health of the city of New York is vigorously opposed to the substitution of cocoanut oil for butterfat. Cocoanut oil is no substitute for milk. Cocoanut oil does not possess the same growing qualities found in the butterfat of milk, and any legislation which permits the addition of cocoanut oil to any milk product would be opposed to the best interests of the people of the city.—Dr. Royal S. Copeland, Health Commissioner for New York City.

CROSBY'S EGG TEST FOUND THE PROFITS

Clarence Crosby, Montcalm Farm Bureau member of Greenville, reports this experience with the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange at Detroit. He had been shipping eggs to a Detroit commission firm, so he shipped one crate to the Commission firm and another crate of the same quality to the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange on the same day. The old line commission firm returned him 43 cents a dozen and the Farm Bureau Produce Exchange made him a net return of 55 cents a dozen, or an additional profit of 12 cents a dozen. The Produce Exchange is the Farm Bureau member's own sales agency and it is on the job to get the high dollar for the consigning member and to return it to him.

LOOK BEFORE LOADING

Inspection of 700 arriving cars of live stock at 7 of the large markets by supervisors of the Packers and Stockyards Administration, United States Department of Agriculture shows that shippers would do well to make careful examination of cars before loading them. The railroads maintain satisfactory car inspection service at the large markets, but not all cars sent to country shipping points have moved directly from the terminals. As a consequence many cars have defects that may cripple animals or even cause their deaths. Of the cars inspected in this investigation seven had holes in the floors, 91 had projecting nails in the walls, and 88 had cleats that might, and probably did, cause bad bruises. Eighty-two of the cars were without bedding, a large factor in the safety and comfort of animals in transit.

No matter who is responsible for the condition of the cars, it is to the interest of the shippers always to make an inspection of his own. Last year at one middle-western cattle market 1,700 cattle and more than 2,000 hogs were found crippled in cars.

"Filled Milk is the greatest deception that has been unloaded on the public in recent years," W. L. Stockton, Pres. Montana Dairymen's Ass'n.

YOUR CO-OP

Handles
FARM BUREAU
BINDER TWINE

Order Now

Mich. State Farm Bureau
Purchasing Dept.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Michigan State Farm Bureau
Assets and Liabilities
January 31, 1923

Herewith is presented the Annual Financial Statement of the Michigan State Farm Bureau so that the membership may be acquainted with all phases of the management of their state organization. This statement was presented to the Board of Delegates at the Fifth Annual Meeting at M. A. C. Feb. 1-2. Such statements will be presented from time to time in the News.

ASSETS

Cash—	
Cash on Hand.....	\$2,192.92
Cash in Banks.....	14,917.73
Membership Receivables—	
1920 Dues.....	77,232.83
1921 Dues.....	243,892.91
1922 Dues.....	329,108.54
Less Reserve.....	227,292.88
Receivables—	
Notes Receivable.....	1,448.78
Accounts Receivable.....	123,760.51
Freight Advances (Prod. Ex.).....	126.43
Advances on Seed.....	\$0,769.58
Investments—	
Mease Seed Dept.....	396,459.24
Mease Clothing Dept.....	19,314.85
Mease Marketing Dept.....	3,046.63
Mease Produce Exchange.....	274.68
Mease Wool Bags.....	1,466.50
	\$1,065,772.67
Less Reserve for Bad Debts.....	5,000.00
Total Current Assets.....	\$1,060,772.67
Fixed Assets—	
Automobiles and Equip- ment.....	\$1,026.00
Office and Store Equip- ment.....	24,188.11
Machinery.....	11,038.89
Seed Laboratory Equip- ment.....	363.83
Real Estate and Buildings.....	75,000.00
Wool Pool Equipment.....	196.31
	\$111,768.41
Prepaid Insurance.....	2,470.31
	\$1,175,006.12

LIABILITIES

Payables—	
Notes Payable.....	\$14,000.00
Loans on Seed.....	189,235.00
Accounts Payable.....	79,461.90
Consigned Seed Payable.....	142,708.59
Advance Membership Pay- able.....	68,797.04
Loans for Seed Working Capital.....	651.50
Land Contract.....	15,000.00
1921 Wool Pool Reserve.....	50,119.92
Accrued Salaries and Wages.....	5,976.88
Accrued A. F. B. F. Dues.....	2,118.57
Accrued Interest.....	769.57
Accrued Taxes.....	983.05
A. F. B. F. Dues Deferred.....	\$569,887.02
	47,300.00
Total Current Liabilities.....	\$617,187.02
Working Capital—Produce Exchange.....	225.00
Net Income—Hubam Clover Pool.....	6,999.24
Total Liabilities.....	\$624,411.26
Net Worth—not including Membership Accounts.....	\$174,893.41
Membership Net Worth.....	375,701.45
Total Net Worth.....	\$550,594.86
	\$1,175,006.12

Rep. Peter Lennon of Genesee has offered a bill which requires school districts to have a combined valuation of at least \$2,000,000 in order to consolidate to establish an agricultural school.

MINNESOTA IS INFORMED WHAT FARMERS WANT

Extension Service, Road Questions, Credits are Covered in Referendum

Farmers of Minnesota have voted overwhelmingly for county agent and agricultural extension work. In a statewide referendum, taken in December and January by the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the vote for a law which will require county commissioners to appropriate funds for the work was 12 to 1.

In the referendum, Minnesota farmers were asked for their positions on fifteen state legislative issues and thirteen national questions. In the state division, a demand for limiting tonnage hauled on highways obtained the heaviest vote. The vote was 26 to 1. A law to permit farmers to organize their own credit associations was favored.

On the question of exempting co-operative corporations from the double liability of stockholders, the negative has a margin of 500, the ratio being 4 to 5.

Cost of production studies, the farmers voted 12 to 1, should be continued. By the same ratio, they asked for restoration of the Minnesota grades on wheat. Increased aid for county agent and demonstration work was favored, 11 to 1. State aid for educational purposes equal to three mill tax was favored, 4 to 1. Laws to protect natural resources were endorsed, 13 to 1.

Further issuance of tax-free securities was condemned, 9 to 1. The question of increasing the maximum federal farm loan limits from \$10,000 to \$25,000 carried 2 to 1. Minnesota farmers voted 30 to 1, to restore rate regulating powers to state railroads and warehouse commissions. Continuation of federal aid for highway construction was asked.

Minnesota farmers also demanded a law providing for 12, 24 and 36 month discount loan for agricultural production purposes. The Lawrence waterway project was endorsed.

The heaviest vote in the referendum was cast on the question of obtaining a truth-in-fabric legislation the vote for the proposal being 11 to 1. A law against filled milk products was asked.

The "Pittsburgh Plus" principle making steel prices was opposed. Acceptance of Ford's proposal to manufacture fertilizer at Muskegon was favored 17 to 1.

GARDEN SEEDS

Our Association is co-operative. We market the products of our members, who are market gardeners, greenhouse men, and fruit men, and furnish their seeds, and other supplies. We also distribute grass and field seeds for the Michigan State Farm Bureau in Western Michigan.

Our only excuse for existence is the service we give. Can we serve you? We want your garden seed orders. Market gardeners demand the best seeds. So should you. Our catalog gives much valuable information. It cost us two bits, but costs you nothing. Write for it.

THE GRAND RAPID GROWERS ASS'N.

L. F. JONES,
Mgr. Seed Department
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.
Cor. Wealthy Street and Tomlin Avenue, S. W.

PETOSKEY Potatoes

"RURAL RUSSETS"

King of Late Potatoes

Resists Heat, Drought and Disease

Our Michigan grown Certified Seed Potatoes produce the largest yields. In 1922 Certified Petoskeys gave Michigan growers 61 more bushels per acre than the yield from all kinds of seed.

In Indiana, Certified potatoes out-yield ordinary stock fifty bushels per acre.

Production costs were the same except the small additional cost of Certified Seed.

If your Local Co-op Association or County Agent cannot take your order, write to

Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange, Cadillac, Mich. or the

Michigan State Farm Bureau
SEED DEPARTMENT
Lansing, Michigan

What Becomes of the Taxpayer's Dollar?

Farmer's Income Fails To Keep Pace With Mounting Costs Of Government

CHARTS SHOW WHERE MONEY GOES

Taxes which the farmers of the United States paid in 1922 amounted to a larger sum of money than the total net income of all the farms of the United States during the same year, official government figures show.

In view of this astonishing situation, there is no question but that the next essential step in government is to reduce expenses instead of continuing to increase them, or devising

new sources of revenue without definite assurance that such new taxes will entirely replace, or materially reduce, existing levies.

It is high time that the American farmer made a careful study of what becomes of the funds raised by taxation. This is shown graphically by the following charts:

THE TAXPAYER'S DOLLAR

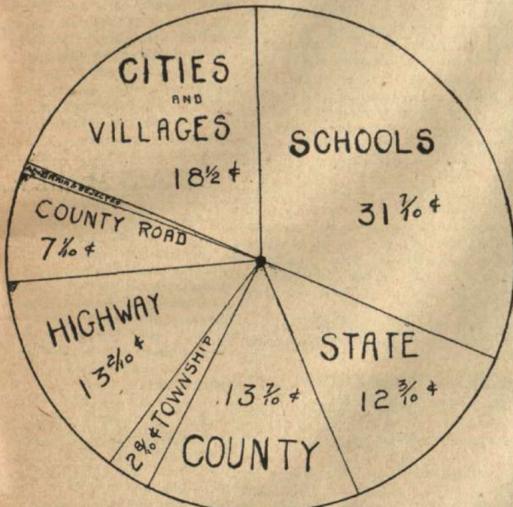


CHART 1

Showing how a taxpayer's dollar is divided between State, County and Local Governments. Average of 75 agricultural counties is indicated by this chart and table.

State	12.33%
County	13.72%
Township	2.84%
School	31.73%
Highway	13.20%
County Road	7.04%
Drain	.63%
City & Village	18.43%
Rejected	.08%
TOTAL	100%

HOW THE STATE USES ITS DOLLAR

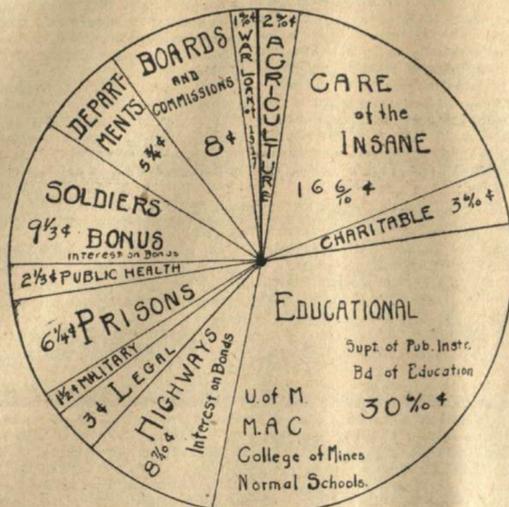


CHART 2

Showing how the State spends its revenue for the various State Boards, Commissions, Institutions, etc. Note how much is absorbed by interest on the State bonded indebtedness.

Agriculture	2.6%
Care of the Insane	16.6%
Charitable	3.6%
Educational	30.6%
Highways	8.7%
Legal	3.0%
Military	1.5%
Prisons	6.3%
Public Health	2.4%
Soldiers' Bonus	9.4%
Departments	5.8%
Boards & Commissions	8.0%
War Loan of 1917	1.4%
Miscellaneous	.1%
TOTAL	100%

per cent of the bituminous coal. Let us see. The farmer pays 55 per cent of the nation's freight bill, and the railroads use 25 per cent of all the bituminous coal mined. The manufacturing industries use 25 per cent of the coal, and the farmer buys one-half of the manufactures. The steel and coke industries use 20 per cent of the coal, and farmers use one-third of the steel and iron. So in reality the farmers pay 39 per cent of the bituminous coal bill. In 1913 it took 2 1/2 bushels of corn to buy a ton of coal, but now it takes 7 to 10 bushels of corn.

Farm Bureau's Answer
The farmer must better this marketing condition. Co-operative marketing is not an experiment anymore. There are some 18,000 co-operative organizations in America, doing a business of a billion dollars. We must draw the smaller competitive co-operative associations together so that they will not compete among themselves.

Walton Peteet has been employed as director of our co-operative marketing department. Co-operative marketing will be the chief effort of the year.

Help Your Self
The other day I had occasion to see the Farm Bureau in operation. It was in a township farm bureau meeting—a township which is using every state and national farm bureau project. They—250 to 300 members—were using the livestock shipping association, the wool pool, the co-operative egg sales, the poultry association, the cream shipping association, the apple sales co-operative, the purchasing department, etc. The total average net for the year in that township farm bureau was \$20,000. The women were interested in women's work, dressmaking, social work, etc., so that the value to the farm homes was greater than the saving in dollars and cents. The increase in joy and happiness in these farm homes was greater than the mercenary benefits. We don't have to beg for memberships in that township. We can't keep them out of the Farm Bureau.

Not long ago I visited a young man and his wife who were using the Farm Bureau on every occasion. This man showed me his books. They showed an actual saving of \$475, or a return of 4750 per cent on his \$10 membership fee. Show me any other investment that will pay so well. This was a 400-acre farm.

But it shows that the Farm Bureau is a cafeteria business. You must help yourself.

SUPERVISORS WANT COVERT ACT KILLED

Repeal of the Covert road act, establishment of the income and gasoline taxes and a pay-as-you-go policy for county, state and national governments, were the outstanding resolutions adopted by the Michigan Association of Supervisors, at their annual convention at Lansing recently.

An attempt to repeal or modify the Covert road law during the present session of the legislature appears to be a foregone conclusion.

MACOMB DAIRY DRIVE

Macomb County's dairy and alfalfa campaign opens March 5 and continues to March 17. Many interesting meetings will be held throughout the county.

Macomb County has a Farm Bureau member who is going to plant 700 pounds of Farm Bureau Grimm alfalfa which he bought from the Utica Farm Bureau local.



Utah Common Alfalfa Seed

Farm Bureau Brand Utah Alfalfa Seed is the cheapest, Michigan adapted Alfalfa Seed on the market.

Inspected while growing and after threshing by representatives of the Farm Bureau Seed Department.

Grown at an altitude of 4500 feet under severe climatic conditions our high quality strains, free from noxious weeds, will give results.

For short rotations we recommend this seed. For permanent fields use Grimm, Cossack or Michigan grown Farm Bureau Brands.

About 10,000,000 pounds of Alfalfa Seed has been imported each year for the last three years.

Don't take a chance on these imported seeds. We do not handle them.

Buy Farm Bureau Seed from your local Co-Op. If you can't get this service locally, write

Seed Department

MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU

LANSING, MICHIGAN

ST. CLAIR FOR GASOLINE TAX

2,100 FARM BUREAU MEMBERS ALSO FOR INCOME LEVY, T. B. CONTROL

The St. Clair County Farm Bureau Board of Delegates at its annual meeting recently adopted the resolutions calling for enactment of a State Income tax, a tax of 2 cents a gallon on gasoline to finance highway developments and maintenance, opposed further issuance of tax-free bonds and endorsed Michigan's bovine tuberculosis eradication program. The Bureau also elected officers. St. Clair County Farm Bureau has 2,100 members.

Text of Resolutions
"WHEREAS, the present taxation burden, especially as pertaining to the rural parts of our state has become so excessive, tending in many cases to the greater discouragement of our farm population, and whereas the taxes on many farms have assumed proportions, making continuance on such farms almost prohibitive, therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED, that we go on record as favoring a State Income Tax, in order that the burden of taxation might be more equitably distributed, and in furtherance of this same end, we also go on record as favoring the abolition of tax-free bonds and other securities. We further express our approval of a tax on gasoline not less than two cents per gallon to finance highway development and maintenance without the real property tax.

WHEREAS, Dairying is the larger farming interest pertaining to Michigan Agriculture, and Whereas the control of Bovine Tuberculosis is of great importance to this industry, therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Clair County Farm Bureau go on record as endorsing an adequate appropriation to be made by the Michigan Legislature now in session, for the control of this disease.

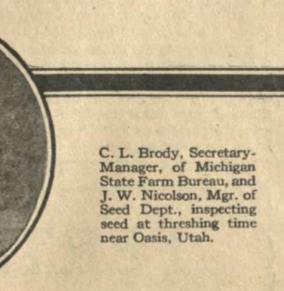
"Inasmuch as the business of producing milk and the sale of same is one of our major interests, we place ourselves emphatically on record as endorsing legislation adequate to prevent the sale and manufacture of "Filled Milk" in Michigan."

Officers Elected
St. Clair County Farm Bureau officers for 1923 are as follows:

Pres., Chester Shirkey, Memphis. Vice-Pres., C. J. Reid, Avoca. Sec'y-Treas., Albert Tesch, Capac. County Farm Bureau Executive Committee: Henry Rosow, Marine City; Carl Greenberg, St. Clair; John Volker, Marine City; P. M. Stein, Port Huron; Floyd Fuller, Jeddo; Hugh Hodgins, Yale.

MRS. ANDERSON QUIT BOARDING 31 HENS

Last August at a poultry culling demonstration Mrs. Louis Anderson of Ludington, R. 4, had her flock of 95 Buff Orpington hens culled by C. M. Ferguson, M. A. C. Poultry Extension Specialist, and County Agent Kris P. Bemis. They culled out 31 hens which she kept for ten days in a pen and the bunch laid two eggs during that time. She got just as many eggs from the remaining 64 hens as she had been getting from the entire 95. After ten days time she marketed the 31 culled through the Mason County Marketing Association and received 26c per pound gross, making net returns of 21 1/2%. The best local offer at that time for poultry was 15c per pound.



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Seed Department

MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU

LANSING, MICHIGAN

Your Neighbors in Farm Bureau through the NEWS

Published Semi-Monthly

CASE RAILROADS REDUCED MILEAGE

Shippers at Lamb One to Helps rate

Michigan Traffic to abolish inflated defendants in the a supplement to mileage and rate as points in the supplement was

AYERS already developing Farm Bureau and justment of Michigan not be decided

ate situation that hearing at Lansing at Washington, interstate and intrastate, and the lack

Shipping Cost. rates to and from Lamb district were reduced on the mileages from Ludington to Ludington City, the rate in that territory, at that territory, of greatly increased from Cass City, Bad Bay Port, and many other points on the line of the & Western railroad, from points on the Marquette running to Pentwater to distances to and by way of Baldwin inflated.

of inflation, are only illustrative of the hearing of the case, it is possible to reduce the rate to and from Ludington to Ludington City, the rate in that territory, of greatly increased from Cass City, Bad Bay Port, and many other points on the line of the & Western railroad, from points on the Marquette running to Pentwater to distances to and by way of Baldwin inflated.

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exchanges Helped us to the shippers in Bureau-Traffic are largely due to t and co-operation t marketing ex- an. At the Public ion hearing last on Potato Growers an Elevator Ex- Live Stock Ex- Milk Producers As- igan's co-operative reduced witnesses on page 4)

FOR EXCH. N SITUATION

it took a drop this s are today paying \$ 7.00 for their e seems to be a id net the farmer y. We hear a lot to the farmer and e reached, but we ken now on beans ed.

the fact that arriving most ev- s of New York s, while California s in New York at per hundred white York is 52 to 55 t prices on beans armer bringing in

REAL ESTATE PAYS 79 PCT. OF TAXES

That real estate bears far more than its just share of the burden of taxation was shown in the recent report of the state tax commission on the assessed valuation of property in the state for 1922.

The total valuation of all property was set at \$5,822,913,389, of which \$4,490,284,601 was on real estate and \$1,332,628,788 was on personal property.

No Personal Increase.
While the average rate per thousand on all taxes in the state has increased from \$26.40 in 1920 to \$28.09 in 1922, there was no corresponding increase in valuation of personal property to meet the growing expenses of government.

In fact, there was an actual decrease in personal property valuation between 1920 and 1922. In the former year, personal property was valued at \$1,196,448,520. In 1921, this value decreased to \$1,188,786,545, and in 1922 it shrunk still further to \$1,132,628,788. Capital invested in personal property is either illegally escaping taxation or is invested in tax-exempt securities.

Real Estate Relief.
In submitting the report, Nathan Simpson, a member of the commission, urged that there be a material reduction on the assessed valuation of rural property and small homes.

The use of land transfer figures as a basis for valuation of such property is responsible for the undue burden carried by real estate, he declared.

The total of all taxes in the state for 1922 was \$160,222,824, according to the report of the commission. In 1921 the total was \$158,338,866 and in 1920 it was \$148,438,982.

State taxes for 1922 were \$17,305,384 as against \$20,462,380 in 1921 and \$17,379,244 in 1920.

The total county tax for 1922 was \$15,953,040, while township taxes amounted to \$2,671,945. School taxes reached a total of \$50,422,121, an increase of \$5,000,000 over the previous year.

City taxes amounted to \$50,714,816, and millage taxes to \$4,528,453. The highway tax was \$11,446,619, and county road taxes amounted to \$6,751,531.

Barry County township Farm Bureaus are electing officers for 1923.

Barry County is continuing its second membership campaign with good results.

Economy and Taxation Reforms Are Needed

That economy must begin at home is clearly shown by the foregoing charts and tables. If the Legislature did not appropriate a single penny of the taxpayer's money for state purposes, the total taxes paid would be reduced only about 12.3%. See Chart 1. School, city, village, county and highway levies are all big items and must be carefully watched if taxes are to be kept down or materially reduced.

Public Demands More of State.
There are indications that the present Legislature will not exceed former appropriation totals. There is some hope that the state tax may even be reduced below that of the immediate past. However, the scope of state government has so increased, and public demands that the State engage in a wide range of activities are such that any material reduction in state levies is hardly to be expected.

State Interest Charge Big Item.
In regard to the item of state debt and interest charges, the State Tax Commission in its recent report makes this noteworthy comment:

"At the beginning of the war, Michigan, as a State, had no public debt. Since then we have by an overwhelming public vote authorized the issue of \$50,000,000 of bonds for highway purposes and \$30,000,000 of bonds for payment of a soldiers' bonus. When these bonds have all been issued, the interest charge alone will amount to more than \$4,000,000 annually. In 1908 the entire amount of taxes for State purposes was but \$4,194,333.80. Out of every dollar of State tax levied in 1921 nearly 19 1/2 cents was for interest alone. In addition to this enormous charge an annual tax must be levied to provide a sinking fund for payment of the bonds when due."

Provisions should be made to liquidate the State's present bonded indebtedness and the "pay as you go" policy adopted for the future.

State Believes in Educational Work.
The item of state educational expense is a very large one, but in view of the serious need for the development of colleges and normal schools, it does not seem that any marked reduction in state educational expenditures should occur.

A big proportion of this seemingly large educational item shown in Chart 2 is composed of the mill taxes for the University of Michigan and the Michigan Agricultural College. Fifty-seven per cent of the total goes to the University. The other 43% of the State's educational expense is divided among the Michigan Agricultural College, the College of Mines, the four Normal schools, the State Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education.

Should Watch Local Items.
But after all is said and done, Chart 1 shows that when the taxpayer rises in righteous anger he shouldn't merely "cuss" the Legislature, but should watch local expenditures and see that economy is practiced all along the line.

By referring to Chart 1 again it will be seen that in the 75 agricultural counties considered, taxes levied and expended wholly within the minor subdivisions, the townships, cities and villages, comprised 70% of the general property tax.

It would seem that the farmer's best hope for tax relief will come through readjustment of our present taxation system, so that no class of wealth escapes paying its share, as at present.

Farm Bureau's Tax Policies.
The State Farm Bureau stands for a state income tax, a gasoline tax, increased license rates for commercial trucks and busses, removal of the limits of the present corporation tax law and doing

away with tax-exempt securities. Adoption of these measures, it believes, would distribute more justly the tax burden and result in greatly reducing the general property tax.

Farmer's Dollar Is Worth Only 65c On His Purchases

(Continued from page 1)
Or the average farm dollar is today worth only 65 cents when we trade for goods we need.

In other words, the other fellow hasn't got back to normal. We got back with a dull thud.

If the buying power of the Illinois farmer were at normal, he would now have \$164,000,000 more per year to spend, or \$691 per farm. Certainly this would be a great stimulus to business in Illinois. The business men of the city must realize what this increase would mean to him in his endeavor to sell goods to the farmer.

Where We're Lame
Agriculture is overproducing when the market is considered. We have no satisfactory system of taking care of our surpluses. We have no satisfactory market at home or abroad.

We grow it; it is ours—ours to dispose of or not, as we will. A second big problem which we have to consider is a better form of financing, a better system of credits. The Farm Bureau program for improved credit is well under way in Washington.

Railroad Problems
A third big problem confronting the farmers is transportation. This problem begins with the road at the front gate. It goes from there to market, whether it is a few miles or across seas. The farmer must have more adequate transportation at less cost. We must have lower rates or else more eastern industries out west so as to feed the people more easily.

Taking a transportation index at 100, in 1923 non-agricultural products buy transportation at 73, while agricultural products must pay 133 for the same service. In other words, in buying transportation the farmer is at twice the disadvantage of the other fellow. Would it be unfair for the farmer to ask for adjustments in rates? No, it is not unfair for him to demand adjustments.

Our Coal Bill
Take the coal situation. Some say that the farmer is but little interested in coal, since he buys only 4

MARKET

SEED

By Farm Bureau Sec

RED CLOVER

Markets continue in early as yet to form an opinion as to the volume of...

ALSIKE

Last week passed in Toledo any trade reported, according to a reliable source...

TIMOTHY

Stock in terminal market much less than in recent years some timothy has gone for...

GRAIN-MARK

By Mich. Elevator Excl

OATS

We still believe oats are although the demand is doing better within thirty or sixty days.

WHEAT

Still in an uncertain position have more wheat in the States than we will consume.

Farm Account

County Agent Wm. F. Ston of Wexford County boys and girls thinking of farm problems.

We submit herewith the report made by Miss M. Smith of Manton...

By Dorothy M. Smith "The benefits to be derived from farm accounting are many."

Number of hens 50. Monthly averages for eggs are as follows:

Jan., 1.54 eggs; Feb., 2.19; 6.12; April, 14; May, 16; 7; July, 12.5; Aug., 11; Sept., 4; Nov., 1; Dec., .6.

"During the months of Aug. Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb. March the egg production low. During the above eight the 50 hens produced 956 eggs average of 19.7 eggs per hen in other words each hen one egg every 12.2 days. During this period are worth \$0.04. Therefore, each hen low average for the 240 days in about \$0.80. Her cost keep averages approximat for the same time. This profit of \$0.20 for each hen this period of high prices egg production.

Recommends Culling It is quite evident that the flock of the flock was getting rickety, while a few hens were the work. This flock has no culling and I believe the elimination would not affect production and lower the cost 50% which would be a net profit of \$0.50 instead for each hen. This is a high price and I feel that also the time that egg production should be given a great consideration.

In commenting on the her dairy operations, M writes, "The cows show a though a decreased inventory gives a misconception regarding true worth of the cows. It brings out the fact that is radically wrong with the of this farm. It could be many things. It might be take a milk test of each should be done before starting for another year.

Better Ration Needed "For instance in the 1 Jan. 1925, the three cows calf received 1200 lbs. hay; 100 lbs. of fodder and of grain (corn). Supposing all fed to three cows, the would be the daily ration cow:

Mixed hay13.3 Grain 2.5 Corn Fodder 1.7

"This would be a first ration for a two-year-old cow for a cow that is supposed way it is far from satisfactory nutritive ratio of this ration one part of protein to 9.8 carbohydrates and 2.5

What the Legislature is Doing

As Reported by the State Farm Bureau's Observer

Progress has been made by leading agricultural measures. The Senate passed unanimously the Horton cheese bill establishing moisture and fat standards for Michigan cheese and requiring honest labeling.

T. B. Bill Starts Fight. A battle royal broke loose in the House when the Kirby bovine tuberculosis bill came up for final passage.

The Kirby bill slightly reduces the maximum state awards for condemned cattle to correspond with the federal award and paves the way for county cooperation in carrying out what is termed the 5-year program of bovine tuberculosis eradication.

The Town anti "Filled Milk" bill has been advanced to third reading in the House without amendment.

Seek Covert Act Repeal. Repeal of the Covert Highway Construction Act is proposed by Rep. Peter Lennon of Genesee.

Opinion is expressed that the Covert Act has served its purpose and should be repealed to prevent abuse of its provisions.

It seems probable that the voters will again have the opportunity to express their opinion in regard to the "port district" and "excess condemnation" amendments.

Tuesday evening the House passed the Dacey resolution providing for submission to the voters of the port district constitutional amendment by a vote of 74-8.

Rep. Culver's excess condemnation third reading in the House. This is another measure that was defeated by the voters in 1922.

Sen. Brower introduced a bill to

appropriate \$100,000 a year for the agricultural fairs during the next two years.

License to Fish. Sen. Condon would require all persons over sixteen years of age to secure a license to catch game fish with hook and line.

Rep. J. E. Watson's bill to permit banks to invest in farm loan bonds issued by Federal Land Banks has been O. K.'d by the committee of the whole of the House and awaits the final vote on third reading.

Electric light and power for rural districts is proposed by Rep. E. O. Ladd of Grand Traverse County who has introduced a bill "to permit townships to acquire, construct, maintain and sell facilities for the purchase, transmission, distribution and sale of electrical energy."

Tonnage Tax Again. An old-time tonnage tax such as formed the basis for historic battles between the Grange, the Cleaners, down-state members and upper peninsula representatives has again made its appearance.

This proposed tax is a stiff one and, based on the average mineral production in the last six years, would bring \$26,000,000 annually into the State's coffers.

The amount of specific tax which Mr. Ormsbee proposes to take from the mining industry exceeds \$9,000,000 the amount of the direct state tax levy this year.

Mining interests protest that this is an inopportune time to establish such a tax since the mining business is not flourishing at present.

Act On Death Penalty. The Pitkin death penalty measure in the House survived some mild at-

tacks and was advanced to third reading. An amendment was carried to forbid the death penalty if the jury is divided or the conviction is wholly on circumstantial evidence.

The capital punishment measure in the Senate is in the form of a constitutional amendment proposed by Sen. Arthur E. Wood of Detroit.

Another measure of more than usual interest on which action is being postponed daily in the Senate is the Bahorski anti-gambling bill.

Special interest is attached to this measure because one big Detroit daily is leading the fight in its favor, while the two other Detroit newspapers strenuously and openly oppose its adoption.

The first move of the Michigan Legislature in the nation-wide war against narcotics was contained in a bill presented by Sen. Joseph Bahorski of Detroit to provide stringent regulation of the sale and possession of habit forming drugs.

The bill would make it illegal for any person except a practicing physician to sell or otherwise dispose of such drugs, and would give police the right of search and seizure.

After considerable debate, the House passed by a vote of 72-14 Rep. Fred Wade's bill to prohibit fishing in inland waters, from which the public is barred, and where the state plants fish.

The bill is a conservation measure intended to break down barriers, which private sportsmen's clubs have thrown up about streams, either enclosed by or adjacent to their lands.

PROPERTY TAX FAILURE TODAY, EXPERT CLAIMS

FARM BUREAU MAN TELLS WHY INCOME TAXES ARE NEEDED

H. C. McKenzie, tax expert of the American Farm Bureau Federation, went to Wisconsin to tell the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau about taxation, but before his return was persuaded to address the joint session of the General Assembly.

"Tax laws now in vogue—the general property tax—date back to 1779, when most property was real estate. In the present day, however, real-estate does not make up the bulk of property."

"Real estate is no longer even an approximate measure of the ability to pay taxes. A new method of measuring the ability to pay must be invented."

Federal Taxes Up-to-Date. The Federal government has taken cognizance of the new condition and through the income and excess profits taxes has a method of assessment based accurately on ability to pay.

The national government did not undertake to meet this demand merely by expanding the consumption taxes; the states, however, have undertaken to meet their increased demands by a mere expansion of the real estate tax."

States Are Slow. Seventy-five per cent of the national revenue is now raised by taxation of income and excess profits.

The situation is well nigh intolerable. Realty taxes are confiscatory. In New York state Governor Miller declared last year that 30 per cent of the income from real estate was absorbed in taxes.

The Colorado Tax Bureau found in some districts tax rates as high as \$80 per \$1,000. Ex-governor Bliss of Rhode Island cites instances in which 75 per cent of the return from real estate was required for taxes.

"Is real estate any longer the proper measure of ability to pay taxes?"

The first State school in the world for indigent children was established at Coldwater.

Mr. M. L. Noon, Dairy Director, Mich. Farm Bureau, Jackson, Mich.

I have your telegram of yesterday, referring to the Voigt Bill, 8,086. I have received a number of letters and telegrams in connection with this bill, and I assure you that I will do everything possible to secure its adoption.

Thanking you for sending me your views on the matter, I am, Sincerely yours, (Signed) JAMES COUZENS.

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU'S STAND ON LEGISLATION

1. Strict governmental economy and a pay as you go policy. 2. Removal of present corporation tax limits.

3. A State Income Tax with \$4,000 exemption and a progressive rate. 4. A straight tax on gasoline of 2 cents a gallon.

5. Retention of three man state tax commission. 6. State regulation of commercial bus and truck lines.

7. An adequate reforestation program. 8. Repeal of Covert Highway Act. 9. Keeping present primary law.

10. Using state highway reward funds to pay local road bonds under direction of Board of Supervisors. 11. State and National laws to abolish tax exempt securities.

12. Strict enforcement of the 18th amendment and Volstead Act. 13. Adequate support of the five-year bovine tuberculosis eradication campaign.

14. State support of co-operative marketing work. 15. Placing quail on song-bird list.

THE BUREAU OPPOSES 1. Pittsburg Plus system of making steel prices. 2. Proposed full train crew bill. 3. Abolishment of primary school fund law. 4. Creation of county assessors. 5. Eastern time as standard for Michigan. 6. Manufacture and sale of "Filled Milk." 7. Wasteful cutting of Xmas trees.

MARKET CONDITIONS As Reported By State Farm Bureau Marketing Departments

SEED By Farm Bureau Seed Dept.

RED CLOVER

Unusually heavy snow storms in the east and heavy rains in the south have continued to delay the demand for clover seed.

It is our opinion that higher markets are likely to be of rather short duration but are quite likely to be the order for at least a short period some time in March, for it looks as though the demand, when it comes, will be from all sections at once.

If the seed could all be marketed orderly over considerable period, we would probably not see any marked advance, although the opinion of many continues to be that there is not enough red clover in the country to take care of a normal seeding at present prices.

ALSIKE Alsike continues dull. There is not a large quantity of good seed available, but farmers continue to let their alsike meadows stay down too long and continue to harvest junk mixtures.

TIMOTHY The Timothy situation seems to be about the same as reported February 8, with the influences mentioned above the controlling factors.

ALFALFA There have been larger imports of alfalfa from Argentina than were earlier expected. This has caused the oats.

PRODUCER'S CO-OP AT KANSAS CITY YARDS

The next co-operative commission house to be opened by the National Live Stock Producers' Association will be in Kansas City, Missouri.

Seven organizations in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas are backing the new producers association. They are: Missouri Farm Bureau Federation, Missouri Live Stock Shippers Association, Kansas Farm Bureau Federation, Kansas Live Stock Shippers Association, Oklahoma Live Stock Shipping Association, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, and the Texas Farm Bureau Federation.

The company will be the farthest west of the firms established by the National Live Stock Producers Association and will draw shipments from Colorado, Utah, Nebraska and other western states, as well as from Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas.

For the week ending February 2 the Producers at Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis, and Peoria stood in first place at their respective terminals. At Buffalo the Producers ranked second. Michigan Co-operative Live Stock shippers are part owners of the Buffalo house. Their partners are Ohio and Indiana Co-op. Live Stock farmers.

MICHIGAN MEN TO PRICE CONFERENCE

Gov. Groesbeck has appointed five Michigan men to represent Michigan farmers at the Agricultural Price Stabilization Conference of Mid-West farming interests to be held at St. Paul, Minn., February 27 upon invitation of Governor Preus of Minnesota.

HILLSDALE ORGANIZING COW TESTING ASS'N.

Hillsdale County is organizing a co-operative cow testing association. The Dairy alfalfa campaign which County Agent Sims, now of Tuscola County, and the M. A. C. Dairy Dept. put on a year ago has greatly increased interest in better feeding and better dairy sires.

Seek Cheese Standard

The restoration of Michigan cheese to popular favor with the consuming public through standardization of the product is proposed by Sen. Norman B. Horton. He would establish a definite fat and moisture content for cheese and provide for proper labeling.

alfalfa market to be a little easier

Alfalfa of guaranteed origin and adaptation that we require in Michigan is unchanged in value.

SWEET CLOVER

On account of the serious setback the farmers in the potato region have experienced this year and also because of the merit of sweet clover as proven by thousands of farmers in Michigan during the last three years, the demand for this seed will be heavy in this state.

SEED GRAINS

High yielding known varieties of oats, barley, corn and beans should be ordered at once as the supply is limited. Of course there will be the usual quantity of common market stocks available for seed purposes.

GRAIN MARKETS By Mich. Elevator Exchange

WHEAT Not much change in the wheat market. Leading traders gave statements calling attention to the fact that the visible supply is increasing at a time when it should show a rapid falling off.

RYE With 47 cents a bushel between cash wheat and rye, makes rye very cheap grain. Still no one wants it. We must have some foreign demand. Until it comes we think rye will do no better.

CORN Visible supply of corn is more than last year. Good feeding demands mixed with some export business keeps the market firm. Do not look for much change.

OATS Visible supply of oats now amounts to about thirty million bushels against sixty-eight million bushels a year ago. We look for no lower price for some little time to come in the oats.

Milo D. Campbell

Of Coldwater, Mich., President of National Milk Producers' Federation says:

"Milk has been a universal food for ages because of its rich animal fats and vitamins. Few people know why milk was the 'perfect food,' but they will soon if they continue using these substitutes which contain no butterfat, and few, if any, vitamins. Food experts call the cow 'civilization's foster mother.' They have never spoken so highly of the cocoon and its cheap oil products used today in imitation of honest milk products. This generation needs more nourishment and less profiteering in its food."

T. B. Nearly Gone

A carload of re-actor cattle was shipped from Hillsdale to the Michigan Live-stock Exchange at Detroit February 19. This makes the county very nearly free from bovine tuberculosis. The tester who is making clean-up reports very few re-actors even from those herds which were worst. Hillsdale county considers herself very fortunate in having so quickly effected a T. B. clean-up.

Pure Bred Duroc Jersey Hogs

Fall born and sows sired by grandson of Patchender.—O. E. Harrington, Marquette, Mich.

FERTILIZER

Get Farm Bureau Goods This Spring

The Farm Bureau is handling International Brand Fertilizers, the best on the market. These goods have been mixed for several months. This gives them plenty of time to cure and assures first class mechanical condition.

Shipped from Buffalo. Our past experience assures us prompt service.

We guarantee mechanical condition and chemical analysis.

Ask your co-op for Farm Bureau fertilizer. Place your order early.

MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU Purchasing Dept. Lansing, Mich.

BARRY HEARS ABOUT BUFFALO CO-OP ASS'N.

Peter Kunz was re-elected president of the Central Barry County Co-operative Livestock Shipping Association at the annual meeting at Hastings, Feb. 7. R. B. Walker is vice-president and Charles A. Woodruff is secretary-manager.

Shippers patronizing the Buffalo Co-op. Exchange have learned that they can market their stock through their own market agency and get more dollars in their pockets and less shrink and as good and better service than given before by the old line companies.

WOULD HALT STATE AID FOR HIGHWAY

Mounting costs of State Highway construction and maintenance are bothering the Legislature. Rep. David H. Butler of Fostoria seeks relief through a bill to halt payment of state rewards for local highways for two years.

IS YOUR ELEVATOR A MEMBER of the Mich. Elevator Exchange? It not, why not?