

FARM BUREAU PREPARES FOR ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

GOVERNOR SOUNDS EFFICIENCY NOTE FOR LEGISLATION

Aid For Poor Counties is Asked in Message to State Solons

FIRM ON ROAD FUNDS

Would Aid State Building By Levying Temporary Inheritance Tax

Quality and not quantity of legislation is expected of the State Legislature during this session, Governor Fred Green asserted in his message to the Michigan legislators as the 55th session convened on January third. In granting a liberal increase in salary for the members of both houses, the voters have a right to expect greater efficiency, he declared.

The Governor's message dealt in particular with the financing of governmental affairs, taking up the cause of the taxpayers of the so-called poorer counties of the state and making recommendations designed to ease their financial burden and recommending, also, a state inheritance tax as a temporary means of raising sufficient funds to meet an emergency situation wherein additional housing facilities must be provided to care for the greatly increasing number of inmates of state institutions.

With taxes for county expenditures, aside from road taxes, averaging about six dollars per capita in 21 counties of Michigan and with taxes on 42 per cent of their acreage returned, unpaid, the Governor showed an immediate need of some remedial legislation during this session of the Legislature. His suggestion was that consolidation, to effect operation on a basis of larger county units or entire absorption of county government where a city occupies the major portion of a county, would reduce operating costs materially.

Should Share Tax
On the question of a temporary inheritance tax, the Governor recommended that the state take advantage of the provision made by the federal government which allows the state to deduct for state death or inheritance taxes up to 80 per cent of the amount of the tax imposed under the federal regulations when paid to the state. Michigan should adjust its estate tax rates so as to get the full benefit of this deduction, he declared.

"Our educational institutions", he said, "have received the attention to which their great import entitles them but the state is considerably in arrears with relation to its other building program features. During the past seven years, of all expenditures for State building purposes, our educational institutions have received fifty-seven per cent and our hospitals nine per cent.

Nearly twenty-four million dollars will be needed to meet the immediate requirements for state institutional construction, he stated.

"Various thoughtful suggestions have been made for providing the money for these building expenditures," he recalled, "but the suggested bond issue, a diversion of the corporation tax or a mill tax, would in the last analysis be a direct property tax. The fairest and most equitable method of meeting this special need would be to levy an income tax for a definite limited period.

"During the past year we paid a federal income tax of more than one hundred and twenty-eight million dollars. A tax of not to exceed five per cent of this amount for a period of four years would meet the requirements. This revenue could be collected easily and cheaply by getting permission from the Federal Government to bill each federal income taxpayer for an amount equal to five per cent of his payment to the federal government. A Constitutional amendment will be necessary before this plan could be adopted," he continued.

Cites Educational Problems
Two great educational problems exist in Michigan and these should be tackled without further delay, the Governor asserted.

"The first of these," he showed, "is the inequality of educational opportunity offered the boys and girls in the state varying as it does from a poor country school to a fine junior college. The second problem is the inequality that exists in the tax burden borne by the people in the various districts. The school tax varies from nothing to \$62.70 on \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The problem of re-organizing Michigan's program of elementary and secondary education is important and in-

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OFFICIAL VOTE IS CAST BY MICHIGAN ELECTORAL SCHOOL

Presidential Electors Meet In Lansing, Deposit Hoover Ballots

The fifteen Republican electors of Michigan met at Lansing on Jan. 2, while the State Senate took recess, and cast their official vote for Herbert Hoover for President of the United States and for Charles Curtis for Vice President. The election was in accordance with the newest laws on the procedure, recently enacted by congress.

The state electors who cast their votes are: Circuit Judge Ira W. Jayne, elector-at-large, and Mrs. Mina H. Varnum and Charles T. Fisher, of Detroit; Albert E. Sleeper, of Bad Axe; Dr. James B. Bradley, of Eaton Rapids; Jesse H. Root, of Monroe; State Senator George Leland, of Fennville; Mrs. Clara Comstock Russell, of Grand Rapids; Paul Woodworth, of Bad Axe; Seth G. Pulver, of Owosso; Thomas Read, of Shelby; John K. Brower, of Big Rapids; Henry K. Gustin, of Alpena; George J. Elisele, of Iron Mountain.

Under the new law, the Michigan electoral college cast its votes for president and vice-president separately. Gov. Fred W. Green certified the balloting before the certificates were sent to Washington.

Two certificates of the vote will be sent by mail to the secretary of state of the United States, one to the judge of the eastern district federal court in Detroit and one to the United States senate.

The electors are mere figure-heads classified under the name of the candidates nominated by the party conventions. The position of elector formerly was a juicy bit of political party patronage, for it carried with it a trip to Washington at federal expense to cast the vote. Now the votes are sent by mail, but for some years each state was required to send a special messenger.

SCOTTVILLE ENJOYS HEALTHY GROWTH IN ITS CREAMERY

Erect New Station to Meet Demands From Rapidly Growing Business

The local creamery at Scottville reports the best year's business in its history for 1928 and has erected a modern receiving plant in new quarters in the town to keep pace with its constant business growth.

The total butter sales during the past year reached the sum of approximately \$400,000, it is reported.

This concern keeps several trucks on the road and receives cream from points as far north as Traverse City and as far north and east as Cadillac and maintains big stations at Copeish and at Reed City.

The new building of the concern is of the construction with concrete floors and foundation. Equipment used is of the latest design and the best obtainable. Both steam and electric testers have been installed to insure uninterrupted service.

The Scottville Creamery shipped several carloads of butter direct to New York City last year.

More Activity Would Become Good Resolve

Farm Equality Move in Need Of Greatly Increased Membership

BY MRS. EDITH M. WAGAR
Chairman Home Community Work
"Happy New Year" we hear from all sides and no doubt, it is the real desire of all mankind, that his fellow-men should be prosperous and happy. And when the American farmer compares his lot with that of the farmer of any other country, he finds he has much to be happy over. The happiness turns to dissatisfaction only when the comparison is made with other vocations of his own country and he has always had the faith that some day that will be remedied.

And what should his New Year resolutions be? Well, resolutions are nothing if not followed by determination of action. Hence, I would say that his first resolution should be to

BERRIEN BUREAU SUGGESTS STATE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Peach Inspection, Highways, Tariff Adjustment Get Place on Program

150 AT ANNUAL MEET
Three New Directors Assume Duties; Officers Are Picked for Year

The annual meeting of the Berrien County Farm Bureau was held on Saturday, January 5th, 1929, in Berrien Springs in spite of the rain, ice and slush. About 150 had dinner together, others came in for the afternoon to hear the addresses and discussions of the resolutions. Mr. Sam Keifer, director of Public Relations for the State Farm Mutual Auto Insurance Co., gave a very interesting and entertaining address on the work of the Co-operatives of the State of Washington. He also gave some very entertaining dialect sketches that called for encore after encore.

Mr. A. M. Edmunds, director of membership work in Southwestern Michigan, addressed the meeting concerning the membership work in the county and told of the work the Farm Bureau is doing about the state and what they hope to do in the coming year.

Resolutions were adopted favoring a more rigid inspection of the peach orchard for diseases and the appointment of the inspectors by the township board instead of by the department of agriculture as it is now.

A resolution was adopted protesting against any tampering with the present Criminal Code law in regard to life imprisonment for four felonies.

A resolution was adopted favoring a division of the taxes, one half to be payable on December 1st and the other half on June 1st.

A resolution was adopted endorsing the road legislation as proposed in the road conference at Lansing, December 27th.

A resolution was adopted reaffirming the endorsement of the proposed legislation for an increased duty on imported agricultural products and a decrease or no duty on imported plant food constituents, tariff on bananas.

A resolution in favor of deporting aliens convicted of felonies.

A resolution was adopted endorsing the employment of a Traffic Director for the State of Michigan, under the Department of Agriculture, in order that fair freight rates might be established for agricultural and horticultural products. (Practically reaffirming the petition to Governor Fred Green, last winter as proposed by The Michigan Fruit Growers).

F. J. Thar, Hagar Township, was re-elected to succeed himself as director. Wm. F. Dean, Berrien Township, was re-elected to succeed himself as director. Ralph Ballard, Niles Township, was elected as director to succeed F. A. Harrington.

The members, in laying aside all discussion of the road question, expressed a desire to hold a special meeting for the purpose of discussing the Covert Road Act and the proposed road legislation resulting from the special road conference held by the Farm Bureau in Lansing on December 27th.

This meeting will be held the latter part of the month.

The reports of the Secretary-Treasurer, J. A. Richards, showed the finances to be in good condition. Special meetings will be held during the year for the discussion of various questions of interest to the members.

do all in his power to bring about a more equitable standard for his job when compared with that of others of the country.

And that means mighty close watching at the present time. We can see a tendency toward hasty, half-developed action by those none too favorably inclined to grant justice to the farmer. Let's insist on "hands off" of the farm situation until our new national officers are in a position to serve and act.

And as a second resolution, let's promise ourselves that we will not leave the game of farming to others entirely, but that we will do our utmost to help untangle the mess. That will mean study, broad-minded thinking and united action on the part of the farmers. We must see to it that we understand the situation as it is and that our neighbor is coming along with us. We must not leave to others entirely the job of convert-

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The Bureau's Tax Counselor

Dear Sir:
My taxes have been very high in comparison with others and to make bad matters worse, they raised my valuation \$2000.00. Could they do this without consulting me? Is there any recourse, or must I pay.

As a matter of fact our township is rather unequally divided, that is, the south half is so much better than the north, that the taxes have never been equally proportioned. This is a fact of almost common knowledge and the south half have seen to it that they got their man, so we in the north half have had to abide by it. I don't propose to stand for it any longer if there is any possible chance. What about our State Tax Commission? What can be done to adjust this inequality? How shall I proceed? I am no SOB, but do believe in a square deal. This same supervisor has been in office for fifteen consecutive years and those who have met with the board of equalization have received no adjustment.

I haven't the means to take it into court for redress.

(Signed) A. J. K.

Your letter raises a number of interesting questions with regard to assessments. You report that your valuation was raised \$2000, and that you were not consulted concerning this raise. In the absence of any statement from you to the contrary, I assume that substantially the following procedure was followed: The supervisor in assessing the township during the early part of last year, increased the valuation of your farm by \$2000. This increase appeared upon the rolls at the first session of the Board of Review and was allowed to stand without change by that board. At the second meeting of the board, you were entitled to appear and protest your assessment; this you did not do. In order to protect your rights, it was your duty to ascertain the valuation placed upon your farm and entered upon the tax roll at the close of the first meeting of the Board of Review, and to make an appearance at the second meeting, if you were not satisfied.

You are not entitled to a notice of a change of the valuation of your farm made by the Board of Review at its meeting. But if you had investigated the valuation of your farm as fixed by the first meeting of the Board of Review, and were satisfied, then you would be entitled to notice of any change made at the second meeting. If you had made the appearances mentioned, and remained unsatisfied, you would have had the further right to appeal to the State Tax Commission for a review of your case. This appeal, however, must be made prior to the time the assessment rolls are turned over to the township treasurer for collection of taxes, and in fact should be made immediately after the meeting of the Board of Review. In view of your failure to make such a protest, and in view of the fact that the tax rolls are now in the hands of the collectors, you are shut off from making any complaint on this score that would, in any way, affect your liability for the full amount of tax charged against you on the tax roll at present.

Now, as to the question of a general unequal distribution of taxes within your township. There are two methods by which you may proceed in securing a review of the local assessments in your township. The first of these is to make the appearances regularly required as outlined above, and if unsatisfied to appeal to the State Tax Commission for review. The second is for you to write directly to the State Tax Commission outlining the situation, such as you have outlined it to me, and requesting them to make an investigation on their own initiative. They have the right to review local tax rolls, without petition from local taxpayers, as well as with petition.

No matter which of these plans you may follow, you will find your standing much improved if you can persuade a considerable number of your neighbors to join you in carrying this matter through. My own suggestion would be that you and your neighbors write at once to the State Tax Commission requesting a review of the Township Roll. I would get signatures from every man in the township that is dissatisfied with the present arrangement. After doing this, I would not sit back and wait for the Tax Commission to act, but would urge every one of these men to appear at the Board of Review meetings this Spring and protest unsatisfactory assessments, after which, if still unsatisfied, I would file a formal petition bearing every one of the names of these appearing at the hearing, requesting the Tax Commission to hold a review. The Commission is not bound to hold these reviews on its own motion, or at the request of taxpayers, but if you are able to obtain from your neighbors, sufficient backing to make it appear

that a serious condition has arisen which affects a large number of your local people, the chances of action of the part of the Tax Commission will be greatly increased.

You can, no doubt readily see that the Commission cannot be expected to investigate every complaint that is made to its members for there are a large number of cranks on the subject of taxation, just as there are on every other subject, but a showing that a whole neighborhood is involved in the dissatisfaction which you report, is likely to receive proper consideration.

I am enclosing a pamphlet entitled "Michigan Farmers' Tax Guide," prepared by Michigan State College, for your information. You will find on page 4, 5, and 6, a short statement of the law as it applies to the questions that you have raised.

F. B. T. C.

LIVESTOCK BOARD RETURNS PROFITS TO MICH. PATRONS

Report Patronage Dividend Of \$17,500 Will Go Back to Members

Reporting sales totaling 41 31-100 per cent of the car receipts of livestock on the Detroit market during the year, the board of directors of the Michigan Livestock Exchange, meeting at Lansing, January 11, declared a distribution of \$17,500 in savings to patrons will be made to the local associations of the Exchange, representing 18 per cent of the commissions paid during the year.

This net profit is based on total sales amounting to \$8,188,429 for the year.

The Buffalo Producers Co-operative Commission Association reported a year's total business of \$9,185,449, with net profits to be paid back to patrons amounting to \$13,000, directors of the Michigan Livestock Exchange announced at Lansing.

The board announced that plans are under way for holding the annual meeting of the Michigan Livestock Exchange at Lansing, February 21st, and 22nd. The annual banquet is scheduled for the evening of the 21st at Hotel Olds at 6:30 o'clock. The annual business session will be held the following day, beginning at 10:00 o'clock Eastern Standard time. Sessions will be held in the city hall, as in previous years.

Last week, at Jackson, the following delegates were picked for the annual meeting of the Buffalo Producers Co-operative Commission Association, to be held February 11th and 12th: James R. Post, of North Adams; W. W. Sprague, of Battle Creek and George W. Brown, of Marcellus.

Delegates

County Farm Bureaus are entitled to send one delegate to the annual meeting of the Michigan State Farm Bureau for each 100 members or major fraction thereof.

Get your delegation picked as soon as possible and formulate your ideas and submit them to State Farm Bureau headquarters for the resolutions committee to consider.

Get your resolutions material in early so it can be studied and put into shape before the last minute rush comes at convention time.

WACOUSTA CLUB MET IN LANSING

Wacousta Farmers' club, of Clinton county, held its January meeting at State Farm Bureau headquarters in Lansing, Jan. 10.

This is one of the strong Farm Bureau locals of Michigan which holds a meeting regularly every month of the year and draws out a good attendance each time.

In spite of the slippery roads, the club had an attendance of about 35 members at the Lansing meeting. They took luncheon at noon in a private dining room in the new Y. W. C. A. building and returned for an afternoon session at the Farm Bureau offices.

George Bateman, president of the Clinton County Farm Bureau and president of the local organization, took charge of the meeting, assisted by Frank Wright, district representative of the State organization.

Information regarding railroad rates can be gained by writing the Farm Bureau News. Delegates desirous of engaging rooms for the annual meetings can communicate with Rev. Biery, care of Peoples Church, East Lansing. Such reservations should be made very early because of the big demand for rooms during Farmers Week each winter.

MICHIGAN TO FARE WELL IN ROAD AID

Michigan will receive \$2,204,966 from the federal government during the next fiscal year, beginning next July, for highway construction.

Congress has authorized an apportionment of \$73,125,000 for federal road aid in the various states. Michigan's portion of this appropriation ranks eighth in amount among the states. The money thus apportioned is for one half the cost of construction work on the main highways of the nation, designated as federal aid roads. States pay the other half of the cost of such construction work.

DELEGATES FROM ALL SECTIONS OF STATE TO ACT ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS WHICH WILL BE BEFORE LEGISLATURE

Bureau Will Have 1,000 or More Representatives At Meeting; Only Farm Organization Which Convenes While Legislature Meets; Is Interested in Legislation

The next big event for Michigan State Farm Bureau members is the eleventh annual meeting at State College, Thursday and Friday, February 7 and 8, during Farmers Week. A big program now being planned will be announced in the January 25 edition of the News.

With the State Legislature in session and the many matters of farm interest which will come before this legislature, including various demands for changes in our state highway building, maintenance and finances—this meeting of the State Farm Bureau, will be especially important, representing as it does farmer opinion from all parts of the state.

The State Farm Bureau is the only big farm organization which meets while the legislature is in session and has the advantage of knowing just how various kinds of legislation are shaping up. The Bureau delegates thus have an opportunity to express themselves while the iron is getting hot, so to speak. In previous sessions of the legislature, the deliberations of the State Farm Bureau on various legislative questions have been observed with a great deal of interest, and have been considered by the public as a quite accurate gauge of current farmer opinion.

Even now the State Farm Bureau has committees at work studying various questions which are certain to come up at our annual meeting and in the legislature. The matter for improving and maintaining our township roads is going to get a great deal of attention. The Farm Bureau is working on this problem now.

It is understood that an effort will be made to pull the teeth of the Horton trespass law, which makes it a misdemeanor to hunt or otherwise trespass on the lands of another without permission of the owner. Farm Bureau men are watching this move too.

Plans for the two day Farm Bureau meeting at the College include the annual Farm Bureau members' banquet Thursday evening at the Union Memorial building, a good program of entertainment and a speaker of national reputation.

After the banquet, the hall will be cleared for another of our famous old time dancing parties. This banquet is limited to Farm Bureau members. Tickets will be \$1.25 per person, as last year, which covers the whole evening's entertainment. The demand for tickets is always great. The building can accommodate 1,000 and is always taxed to the limit. Again we advise members to reserve or remit for your tickets now and be sure you have them when you arrive. Address your letter to C. L. Brody, secretary of the State Farm Bureau, Lansing, Michigan.

Wednesday noon, February 6, several hundred Michigan agents for the State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance company, for which the State Farm Bureau is state agent, will hold their annual meeting and luncheon program at the Union Memorial Building at East Lansing. A big time is in store for them. These men are nearly all Farm Bureau members; they'll be on the job at the annual banquet Thursday evening and, again, we urge them and all of you to reserve your banquet tickets early.

Plan to attend your annual State Farm Bureau meeting.

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Act without delay.

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This occasion is taken for correcting an error which occurred in the last issue of the NEWS in which we stated that four of the Master Farmers of Michigan this year are Farm Bureau members. There were six members in the list of Master Farmers, we find, in comparing our report with our revised membership list and the two Farm Bureau members whose names were carried as non-members in last issue of the paper are Creyts brothers, of Clinton county. These are, D. D. Creyts and J. W. Creyts, who are listed under the Lansing postal routes but who are members of the Clinton County Farm Bureau. This was the editor's mistake and we wish to correct it.

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Editorials

TARIFF LEGISLATION

The forthcoming tariff legislation should be an "adjustment" not a "revision" of tariff rates. Industry does not need, and should not seek, except in regard to a few commodities, upward revision of rates.

A complete revision or rewriting of a tariff act always upsets the business equilibrium of our nation and harms agriculture and industry alike. Business should not be disturbed next year by a complete overhauling of tariff schedules.

Much is said about compensatory duties; that is, wherever an article of raw material secures a duty, a like duty of compensatory nature must be placed on the manufactured product made from that article.

The adjustment of the tariff schedules early in the 71st Congress must not be a case of agriculture being out maneuvered; which is to say that if we in agriculture get our rates increased, industry likewise will get her rates more than proportionately increased so that the balance, or lack of balance, is as bad as, or perhaps worse than formerly between agricultural and industrial products.

Our Washington offices will have representatives before the Ways and Means Committee on various dates running from January 7th to February 25th, seeking increased duties on fully one hundred and fifty farm commodities which are scheduled in ten of the sixteen dated hearings of that committee.

At Washington we are working in absolute correlation with other agricultural groups so that whatever data, facts and proposed rates of duty are presented by us will be in accord with

those to be presented by other representatives of agriculture.

It is urgently requested that every agricultural organization send representatives to Washington and go over plans with those at Washington who seek to present, this time, a solid front in behalf of agriculture on tariff matters.

Our big job this winter as it is now developing is to present facts to the Ways and Means Committee so that the forthcoming adjustment of tariff rates will actually put agriculture into the American protective system. It is realized, of course, that the enactment of the adjusted tariff schedules will not be secured until the incoming administration calls an extra session of Congress.

This seeming trend of affairs at Washington is exactly in accord with the substance of Resolutions No. 2 and No. 7 adopted recently at our tenth annual meeting in Chicago. You can be of the greatest help in these matters by immediately conveying to your members of Congress, in the House and Senate, support to the plan outlined in those resolutions of considering tariff matters and farm relief at an extra session—the 71st Congress.

HE BUILT CAREER AND ROADS

The name and fame of Frank Foster Rogers is written so large and so permanently over Michigan that wherever printers' ink attempts to add anything such an attempt will be largely a superfluity. It may remain, perhaps only in ink in some of the large outline with a little more detail.

There is something more to the service Mr. Rogers has rendered Michigan than is expressed in concrete and gavel and grade stakes. He has lived an ideal. Seventy years ago he was born a farm boy on a Lenawee county farm.

When he graduated from Michigan Agricultural College, as it was then, all he asked was a plain job and that was all he received. In rubber boots that soon made his feet sore he began. It is not recorded that he ever had any particular run of luck.

So Frank Foster Rogers got in on the ground floor, or perhaps it should be the sub-grade, of road building. Michigan's problem and Michigan schools and Michigan farm-boy product coalesced into the Michigan road system we have today.

In appointing Mr. Dilman to succeed Mr. Rogers it would appear that Governor Green has seen professional road building as having a higher claim than politics.—State Journal, Lansing.

FARM TAXES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Farm taxes have increased nearly 160 per cent in the last 15 years, whereas land values are now approximately 20 per cent higher than in 1913.

Most farmers do not pay any direct taxes to the federal government, and are little affected by changes in the federal income tax. They pay taxes on their real estate, and in most cases on personal property to the local county or township treasurer.

Most of the direct taxes that a farmer pays are based on his land and buildings and on his automobile; he undoubtedly pays other taxes in the price of goods that he purchases, but their amounts and kind are matters of dispute.

The first item of expense in the average community is the school, from one-third to one-half of all public money spent going into schools. Roads probably account for about a fourth of the total. The salaries and expenses of local and county officers are a small part of the total expenditures, and finally there is the amount that goes to maintain the state government.

There are several reasons why both schools and roads cost more than they did 15 years ago. In the first place all prices have risen, so that if we were only getting the same amount of schools and the same kinds of roads now that we had in 1913 their cost would be higher.

The average length of the school term has been increasing. More children are going to high schools than formerly, and the education of a high-school student costs over twice as much as that of one in grammar school. All of these items have been factors in calling for more money for education.

Much the same story is true of increased expenditures for roads. Labor and materials cost more. We are building vastly better roads, and giving them much harder usage. It costs more to maintain them.

Taxes have gone up partly because of the general rise in the price level and partly because the average community wants things which require more and more taxes to buy.

SUGAR COSTS

Michigan agriculture has more than a passing interest in the possibility of getting a readjustment of the tariff which obtains on sugar importations.

This year thousands of acres of land in Michigan that once turned out as high as 14 to 20 tons of sugar beets to the acre have gone into production of other agricultural crops.

We say Cuban sugar interests, but these interests, keen and closest competitors of the sugar beet growers of Michigan and the mid-west section of the country, are Wall Street interests who take the stand that they cannot afford to have Cuban sugar movements slowed by an increased tariff because their money has built up the Cuban sugar trade.

In other words, the relief through an adjusted tariff, on this important food commodity, which our agriculture needs if the domestic sugar industry is to be revived and survive, is being staved off, so to speak, by our own people in the east.

For Michigan agriculture to go out of the beet business means going into other crops to further weaken our markets. Here the agriculture of Michigan needs assistance. The eventual result will mean a slightly higher price for sugar to the consumer, if our beet sugar industry is to survive in any degree of efficiency but the slight advance in price will never break the consumer who is getting this staple commodity now at an unreasonably low price of about five or six cents a pound in pound lots.

To maintain this low price to the consumer, millions of dollars of Michigan money are tied up in idle machinery, equipment and refineries, many of which have not turned a wheel this season and many more of which undoubtedly face a similar situation in the coming seasons.

Michigan's nineteen sugar factories, built to accommodate the beet production from thousands of acres of the state's best land, represent the investment of many million dollars and there is only one thing that can be expected to save this great aggregate investment from virtually a total loss and that is sufficient duty on our sugar imports and duties levied equally on Cuban sugar so that domestic production can regain the position it once held as a reasonably profitable industry for the Michigan farmer and for the refiners.

Consumers should rally to the assistance of the producer in this instance as a move to save a valuable industry for the state. The consumer might well accept an advance of a cent or two a pound on his sugar requirements as his bit toward the rehabilitation of the sugar beet grower and a better equalization of conditions in the field of agricultural production.

PROMOTING HOME INDUSTRY

It seems that whatever suggestion is made for helping the agricultural producer involves him as the bearer of the greatest share of the burden, no matter how the problem is attacked, but a suggestion made this week by Dean Joseph F. Cox, of Michigan State College, while proposing a temporary additional load upon the farmer, has considerable merit in that it seeks to give him eventual control of a market in which he now pays out at the mercy of the seller, every season when seed purchases are made.

It was Dean Cox's thought, as expressed at a meeting of the State Farm Bureau Board and a few others who met to consider possible tariff relief for agriculture this winter, that by jumping the tariff on red clover seed from four cents a pound to eight cents a pound, sufficient unfit foreign clover seed could be held out of the market by the increase of cost to the farmer to make possible a return to a former condition wherein all the red clover seed requirements in the country were met by domestic production.

This would appear to be throwing up a pretty high wall to keep our industry at home, the Dean explained, but the surest way of getting the quality of seed Michigan needs is to encourage home production. This is sound logic.

Not alone does importation of foreign seed mean seed that cannot stand the rigors of our severe winters but we have learned by sad experience that these foreign grown seeds have carried much of the foul stuff that ruins many a farmer's meadow when sown. Likewise, importations of seed have introduced insect pests that might have been avoided, had we grown seed at home.

It may be a suggestion that will hit hard at first but, as intimated, there would be no one to blame for poor seed but ourselves if we produced all our own seed.

Governor Sounds Efficiency Note For Legislature

(Continued from page one) It is recommended that a commission be appointed to study Michigan's educational situation with special reference to a co-ordination program of the secondary school and report its findings.

"For the first time in the history of the state we are presenting to this legislature a balanced budget," he explained, using the term, balanced budget, because the figures on expenditures are limited to the revenue available under the state's present system of taxation. The budget contains the amounts requested by the various departments and activities in one column and the amount recommended by the administration in a corresponding column.

"We shall present to you a single appropriation bill based upon this budget analysis in which is incorporated appropriations for state purposes," he said.

"This appropriation bill," he continued, "is the result of careful study of the state's requirements as shown by the experience of the past and is tendered as the administration's recommendation. It has been drawn up with every economy in mind. It is subject to your further reductions but it cannot be made the subject of material additions and kept within the present state income."

"A survey of the budget and the appropriation bill show that they make no provision for the large building program that is necessary. If we expect to bring the neglected facilities of the State up to date, it will require a separate source of revenue."

Favors Highway System

That the present division of highway money is equitable was emphasized by the state's chief executive in treating of state highway matters. He made it very plain that he would not favor making any change in the gas or weight tax at this time or taking any money from the highway construction fund.

Continuing his message, he said, "Costs of road construction have been materially reduced because of our strict adherence to the policy of full publicity and awarding to the lowest bidder."

"Trucks and buses necessitate the heavy type of road construction. Legislation should be passed providing for a substantial increase in their contribution to the road revenue."

"In 1927 the legislature made provision for the return to the counties annually of an amount equal to one-half of the weight tax. As the result of this legislation there will be paid to the counties this year approximately \$3,500,000 more than they had received in any year prior to this legislation. Taking into consideration this liberal division and also the payment that is made for the maintenance of trunk line highways within cities and villages, the state itself had remaining for highway construction in the year 1928 only forty per cent of the total expenditures made possible from the highway revenues."

While he went to some length in a summing up of things accomplished for agriculture in recent years, Governor Green had but little to offer for aiding the farmer of Michigan this winter. Strict observance of the grading laws will be helpful he explained. Legislation to safeguard the high standards of Michigan beans may be necessary, he re-

marked and intimated that reasonable financial support should be considered for carrying on the work of eradicating tuberculosis in cattle.

During the Legislature's first week in session but little was done other than to organize and get set for a 10 day recess for junketing.

For the first time in Michigan history, the administration introduced a bill at the opening of the session, setting forth the financial requirements for all state departments and institutions and included all in one appropriation measure. Also, as something new, it was proposed in this bill to take care of building requirements without burdening the property tax payer by diverting 5 per cent of the annual income tax collected by the federal government so that a total of about \$23,000,000 will be available over a period of four years to meet building expenses for state institutions, according to their needs outlined in a 10-year building program drafted by the commissions in charge.

This bill leaves the property tax for the next two years relieved of about three and a half million dollars a year. The measure has gone to the ways and means committee of the House.

Representative Ate Dykstra, of Kent county, introduced the first highway measure, seeking to split the weight tax equally so that cities, villages and townships would get a third, the state a third and counties a third.

That the state's criminal code will undoubtedly undergo some revision is foreseen in the several bills introduced seeking to make a misdemeanor of liquor law violations, provide for mandatory capital punishment, provide for mandatory sentences by jury instead of by judges and a few other proposed changes.

The first insurance bill would permit an insurance policyholder to start suit against a domestic insurance concern in his own county rather than require starting suit in the county where the concern is located.

Divorce matters come in for consideration in one of the early bills. This would prohibit re-marrying by either of a couple within one year after the granting of a decree of divorce, except that the two might be remarried to each other within that period.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives this session is Fred R. Ming, of Cheboygan. Lieutenant Governor, Lura Dickinson, of Charlotte, again wields the gavel in the Senate. Other new officers are Myles F. Gray, new clerk of the house. Rep. William J. Thomas, Kent, speaker pro tem of the House, Frank B. Clemmens, Detroit, sergeant-at-arms of that body, and Sen. Augustus Ganssner, Bay City, president pro tem, and Grove M. Rouse, Michigan, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate.

MILK FEDERATION READY TO BATTLE FOR HIGH TARIFF

Seek Relief For Producers Through Flexible Duty Provision of Laws

STRIKE AT SUBSTITUTES

Would Erect Barrier For Curbing Philippine Oil Imports

A vigorous fight in behalf of American dairy farmers to secure adequate tariff protection on all dairy products and all vegetable and animal oils and fats that directly or indirectly compete with dairy products, and for tariff protection against the Philippine Islands on vegetable oils, has been launched by the National Co-operative Milk Producers Federation. This action follows months of agitation by the Federation to get Congress to consider the agricultural tariff problem. Last May, the Federation in co-operation with other commodity groups, urged Congress to pass a special emergency agricultural act. The effect of this drive made itself apparent in the Presidential elections, and leaders of both parties made promises of tariff protection to agriculture.

The House Committee on Ways and Means has announced that it will consider a general revision of the Tariff Act of 1922 with hearings scheduled to begin January 7, 1929. January 7, 8 and 9, the committee will consider schedule 1 which includes casein, vegetable and animal, and fish oils and fats. On January 24, 25 and 28, the committee will consider schedule II which includes dairy products and other agricultural products. On February 20, 21 and 22, the committee will consider articles on the free list which includes a number of vegetable oils and raw materials which come in competition with dairy products. On Feb. 25 it will begin hearings on administrative provisions of the bill which includes the levying of duties on the Philippine Islands, and the extent to which the present flexible tariff provision (section 315) is adequately serving the needs of the country.

Under the flexible tariff provision, the President is authorized to make changes up or down in articles on the protected list to the extent of 50 per cent following investigations of comparative costs of production by the U. S. Tariff Commission.

COMPLETE PLAN DRAWN FOR 1929 CORN BORER WORK

Michigan Will Conduct Work Of Research Along With Six Other States

COORDINATE EFFORTS

Practical Methods of Combating Pest and Checking Spread

A complete program of research controlling the European corn borer was presented and adopted at the third annual conference of corn borer interests in Washington, D. C. More than seventy representatives from the corn borer infested states and the corn belt, including entomologists, administrative officials and others interested in the borer, attended the meeting. Dr. A. F. Woods, director of scientific work, United States Department of Agriculture, as chairman of the conference opened the day's session with a brief address in which he urged a discussion of the many angles of the problem and explained the purpose of the conference was to provide for a complete co-ordination of the various research projects throughout the affected states and Canada.

The program as adopted for 1929 includes definite research work by bureaus of the United States Department of Agriculture, Entomology, Plant Industry, Chemistry and Public Roads, Animal Industry and Agricultural Economics, in states—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and New York—also carry on research and educational work in the numerous phases of the borer problem.

Among the thousands of major and minor lines of investigation all of which have an important bearing on the final solution of the problem will be studies by these Federal bureaus on feeding and other habits of the borer, studies on the tolerance of the borer, studies on the effect of insecticides on the development of the corn plant so as to retard the maximum moth flight, and studies on the possibility of dispersing the corn plant with other crops of equal value.

Investigations with insecticides, plants, and attractants will be conducted. The important projects under way to introduce and establish parasites of the borer from other countries will be continued. Studies of the life habits of the pest will be carried on to furnish information necessary for a practical program in combating spread and control of the borer.

Work will be continued to determine the value of fall and spring plowing in different types of soil, different widths and types of bottoms, on different dates, and various depths. In fact, no line of investigation promises to furnish useful information on the borer problem has been omitted from the 1929 program. A new committee representing the American Society of Animal Production reported at the conference and pointed out that 80 per cent of the corn produced is fed to stock. Therefore, the committee will advise on the vital interest to the animal industry. In this connection the program includes studies on the use of other feeds and pastures and water quantities to meet a possible shortage of corn.

Save Tag and Seed Sample

Farmers in Michigan will invest several million dollars in seed this spring. Most of this will be put into the ground without keeping a sample for future reference.

The Michigan seed law requires every sack of seed to carry a tag giving the analysis, germination and date the test was made. This analysis tag should always be saved. When accompanied with a small sample of the seed, the seed file is complete for that crop.

The Farm Bureau Seed Service encloses with its alfalfa, clover and timothy seeds a small printed envelope, describing the seed and providing storage for a sample.

The growing crop is the final test by which all seed is judged. If mixtures or foreign weeds are found in the field the file sample can be referred to for a re-analysis. On the other hand, on a good stand one has all the information needed to get similar seed for sowing next season.

A small sample of the seed you sow and the analysis tag may not be needed but once or twice in a lifetime. That once or twice may repay the cost of keeping such samples from year to year.

Save some seed. Save the tag.

ALFALFA LETTER CONTEST

The Michigan Farm Bureau Seed Service announces that in this and in succeeding issues of the News, and until further notice, it will give prizes of \$5, \$3, and \$2 for the best three letters received from the News readers on the subject, "My Experience With Farm Bureau Alfalfa Seed." Tell us all about it—up to 500 words.

The prize winning letters and others, if space permits, will be published in the News. Letters published in addition to the prize winners will be awarded \$1 each. The contest starts now. Send your letters to the Editor, Michigan Farm Bureau News, 221 N. Cedar St., Lansing, Michigan.

Prize Winners This Issue

First Prize Winner

Lone Oak Farm, Belmont, Michigan.

My experience with Farm Bureau alfalfa seed is such that would convince anybody seeing the field which I have that Farm Bureau seed is the seed to buy.

It was a field of about four acres all sown the same day, on August 5, and during the following years the crop from Farm Bureau brand seed produced two good crops each season for three years while the crop from the other brand cut one short crop and after that it got yellow and disappeared.

This was experience enough for me when I had to plow after three years.

Now I buy seed that's adapted to this state with a guarantee which acts as an insurance on my crops.

Yours truly,

George Gryka.

Second Prize Letter

R. T. Niles, Michigan.

In the spring of 1927, I prepared fifteen acres for alfalfa. I plowed it deep with a tractor in April. The soil over the field varied greatly with sandy loam, some sand, a black, sticky flat and some gravelly knolls and hillsides. The fertility of the soil was good. The subsoil was alkaline but the top soil was acid.

We plowed it early. The disc was used frequently and after rains to kill weeds and pack the soil.

I have a home-made drill with seven hoes which can be spread any distance apart. There is a float ahead of the hoes and bolted to them.

The seed was planted in rows, nine and one-half inches apart, at a very uniform depth, in nice, warm, moist soil on July 20. This was during a drought. The seed was registered Farm Bureau Hardigan.

We had thirty pounds of seed to start with and four pounds left at the finish. This figures out just about one and three-quarters pounds to the acre, so I knew just what I was doing.

I know this amount will seem too small to most of you readers, but if you will count out a pound of alfalfa seed and use your pencil, you will find that a pound to the acre, evenly distributed, will give you five and one-half seeds to the square foot.

Now, you will say, this is all theory, but I say come and take a look at my field where we put the above into practice.

On one end of the field where manure was spread we failed to kill some spots and strips of knot-grass and the stuff spread and choked out the stand. But for this, the stand would be ninety-nine per cent perfect. It is ninety per cent perfect as it is, and where there is no weed competition it is a beautiful stand.

All the work of plowing, fitting and planting was done with the tractor.

We took two good cuttings last summer and left a good growth for winter.

I am proud of the Farm Bureau Seed Service. It takes the gamble out of seed buying.

Years ago, before this service was established, I spent time and money trying to get alfalfa and, in fact, sometimes got the stand all right only to have it killed out. The answer to this is unadapted seed.

Just sowing on a lot of seed will not insure a stand. Get the very best seed you can buy and buy it from folks who know where it was grown.

Yours truly,

A. G. Blanchard.

Third Prize Letter

R. I. Buchanan, Michigan.

Ever since the Michigan State Farm Bureau developed its seed service I have purchased all my supplies of seeds, including alfalfa, sweet clover and red clover, from our local Co-op, which handles certified seeds furnished and guaranteed by Michigan State Farm Bureau seed service.

I think if I received no other benefits from my membership in Farm Bureau than this, I am fully repaid for all my membership dues by being assured of a reliable place to procure pure seed.

About two years ago a well known Iowa seed supply house sent me their seed catalogue. Then, a few days later, I received a letter from the proprietor, asking why he had not received an order and asking me to tell him frankly if there was anything wrong with his proposition. I replied that I noticed at the very head of his circular this announcement, "We are importers of foreign seeds" and wound up my reply to him that I procured all my seeds through the Seed Service of our State Farm Bureau, which always furnished us with seed adapted to our soil and climate.

Yours for good seeds,

T. C. Stearns.

QUARTERLY IDEA ADDS SPIRIT TO COUNTY MEETING

Calhoun Farm Bureau Makes Plans To Hold Several During the Year

Nearly every township in Calhoun county was represented at the annual meeting of the County Farm Bureau, at Marshall, Jan. 4. This was a quarterly meeting of members and there were 200 persons at the dinner. The dinner was served by the Ladies Aid Society of Brooks Memorial church, where the meeting was held.

Addresses were given by Mrs. Edith M. Wagor, of Carlton, director of home and community work for Michigan, and by Robert Addy, dairy feed specialist of the Farm Bureau Supply Service. Reports on the annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation were given by Elmer Ball, Earl Johnson and Elmer Boyer, delegates. Mrs. Hazel Barningham, of Marshall, gave a reading and Hilton Dresseau, of Marshall, entertained with songs.

MICH. ELEV. EXCH. MARKET OPINION

By Michigan Elevator Exchange, Lansing, Michigan, under date of January 11, 1929.

WHEAT—After selling down to the lowest price in five years market shows some firming up and prices five cents higher than a week ago. Look for higher prices during balance of this crop year.

RYE—A very dull market with prices holding steady.

OATS—Should sell five to ten cents higher before another crop.

CORN—Prices hold very strong and there is no indication of any very cheap corn this season.

BEANS—Growers are being bid nine cents but are generally sitting tight. This market will, no doubt, continue very tight.

Nothing In A Name

Varietal names of corn mean little, but knowledge of where a strain has been grown and how it has been selected is all important in choosing seed for planting.

Other quarterly meetings are to be held during the year, it was decided. Tentative plans for the next one were made.

More Activity Would Become Good Resolve

(Continued from page one) ing that neighbor to be an ally to our cause, but, rather, day by day in many a way, we should prove to him that he is a part of the program of farm betterment and if he is not working with his fellow farmers he is then enrolled on the other side as a hindrance.

Should Assist Organization—Then we should resolve that we will help to make our organization stronger in numbers and also in influence in the county and in our own communities.

Let's take an inventory of ourselves and see if we are letting chances slip by in doing our Farm Bureau organization a good turn.

Have we always spoken the good word for the seed advantages made possible by the Farm Bureau?

Did we tell our brother dairyman just why the Farm Bureau went into the feed business and why the farmers should stand by this service?

Have we told our neighbor the reason why he should carry auto insurance and the protection we have made possible for him?

Have we showed him what combined effort has brought the farmer in legislative ways and in transportation problems? And then, have we pointed out to him the many things which we would like to do even locally but cannot do now because our numbers are too low?

Have we even convinced ourselves that the women are real adjuncts to our cause and that when the good wife is interested we have doubled our influence?

Then let's do some serious thinking about having more meetings in our county.

Let's do our best toward placing our own county on the honor roll.

Perhaps we cannot do it all at this time but we can make a substantial start. If we cannot have four quarterly meetings, let's have two a year anyway; let's have something doing in some way that will give our members a chance to get together once in a while and then, when we plan on getting them out, let's also plan on having a rousing good time so they will want to come again.

If no attempt is made to interest the membership within any county there's something wrong with those chosen to govern that county and the sooner they are jarred to their duty or a change is made, the better that county can function.

Follow Up Resolutions

There's nothing so disheartening as an inactive official board. If we could make a resolution and then see that it was worked out to the effect that we would double our membership (and there's no reason why we shouldn't if we only set ourselves to it) and that we would make every member an interested, active member, why, what a glorious feeling it would be for all of us by the time another year rolled along. This is all within easy possibility if we only set ourselves about it. What would it all mean in a statewide way and for a national cause? Well, it would mean that the things we now dream about would then be a reality, that's all.

The lack of members, interested in our cause, is the greatest hindrance to farm equality.

With them we might do 'most anything and without them we are compelled to 'bide our time.

Let's resolve to interest the members we have and go out after others until we have a farm organization with as much power behind it as any other class has. If we could bring this about, the year of 1929 would be the most important year organized agriculture has ever known.

Garlock-Williams Co. 2614 Orleans St. Detroit

Your shipments of poultry, eggs and veal are solicited. Tags and market information sent on request.

Co-operate In Your Sales

Selling livestock direct to packer buyers in the country permits the packers to pick out the good stock and dump the light ones on the public market where the livestock prices are fixed. This reflects on the producers' returns by working to the advantage of the packers.

Ship your livestock to either the Co-operative Commission Association, at East Buffalo, N. Y., or to the Michigan Livestock Exchange, at Detroit, to obtain the most satisfactory return and to safeguard your interest as a producer. These two concerns are co-operative selling agencies serving the Michigan Livestock Exchange.

Michigan Livestock Exchange Detroit, Mich.

or Producers Co-Op Com. Ass'n East Buffalo, N. Y.

STATE FARMERS TO SHOW CROPS

Competitive Exhibits Are To Be Feature of Farmers Week

Michigan grain and potato producers will compete for nearly \$1,000 in prizes in the annual competitive show, sponsored by the Michigan Crop Improvement Association, to be held at the Michigan State College in connection with Farmers Week, Feb. 4 to 8.

Both the potato and the grain exhibits will be housed in Demonstration Hall and will be supplemented with educational exhibits. The grain show will also include alfalfa and corn, and winners of the annual five-acre corn contest will be announced during the week.

The barley exhibit, introducing the new Spartan barley, which received favorable comment at the International Grain Show at Chicago will be a part of the show. Another educational exhibit will deal with crop improvement.

Exhibits should be addressed to Paul R. Miller, superintendent of exhibits, and should reach the college not later than the morning of the first day of Farmers Week. Exhibits may also be delivered in person.

Any Michigan farmer is eligible to exhibit. All exhibits must have been grown in the state during the season of 1928 by the exhibitor on his own farm or one on which he is employed.

Home

BY NANCY BYRN TURNER I want to have a little house With sunlight on the floor A chimney with a rosy hearth, And lilacs by the door;

With windows looking east and west, And a crooked apple tree, And room beside the garden fence For hollyhocks to be.

Oh, all my life I've wandered round, But the heart is quick at knowing Its own roof and its own bush And its own houghs blowing.

And when I find that little house— At noon or dusk or dawn— I'll walk right in and light the fire And put the kettle on!

Meat brine or too much salt will kill pigs, also old hogs. Watch where you throw even the water from boiling a salted ham.

Kitchen Sink Drain Source of Sickness

Proper care of the kitchen sink drain and trap is necessary to avoid possible contamination of shallow wells and spread of sickness. Placing and construction of cesspools and grease traps should be given thorough study before installations are made, authorities on farm sanitation advise.

Placing and construction of cesspools and grease traps should be given thorough study before installations are made, authorities on farm sanitation advise.



Suppose You Collide With a Post

or any other stationary object, such as the road bed, a ditch bank, a bridge, the curbstone, or have an upset, and damage your car?

Against such a probability, which certainly is as high as colliding with some other car, wouldn't it be a good idea to ask our agent to explain to you our

Stationary Object Collision Policy

Such accidents are expensive, as is shown by several stationary object collisions just paid: Claim 2428 at Grosvear, Mich., for \$810.33 for repairs; Claim 3518 at Benton Harbor for \$72.57; Claim 3503 at Rockford for \$69.20; Claim 3050 at Clio for \$268.04.

The State Farm Mutual Auto Insurance Co. offers you stationary object protection at very low annual rates. We are a strong, legal reserve company. We have an agent near you. Don't delay in seeing him. If you don't know him, or want further information, write us.

Be protected before you start on a trip.

Michigan State Farm Bureau

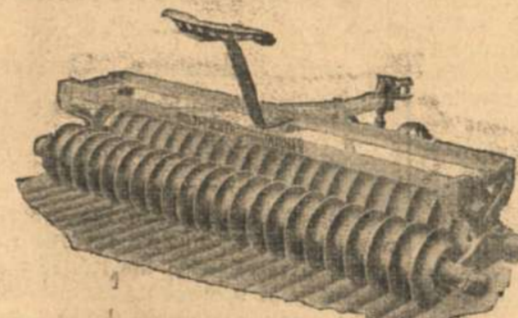
Lansing, Michigan

MICHIGAN AGENT

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTO INS. CO. OF BLOOMINGTON, ILL.

NOW you can buy genuine DUNHAM Tillage Tools

At the Lowest Prices ever offered through the Farm Bureau Supply Service



CULTI-PACKER

Crushes clods, levels ground and mulches surface. Unequaled for re-setting winter heaved wheat. Perfect for covering clover and alfalfa seed. Handles all early cultivation. Six sizes—4 1/2 to 11 feet.

\$34.00 to \$89.95

DUNHAM—

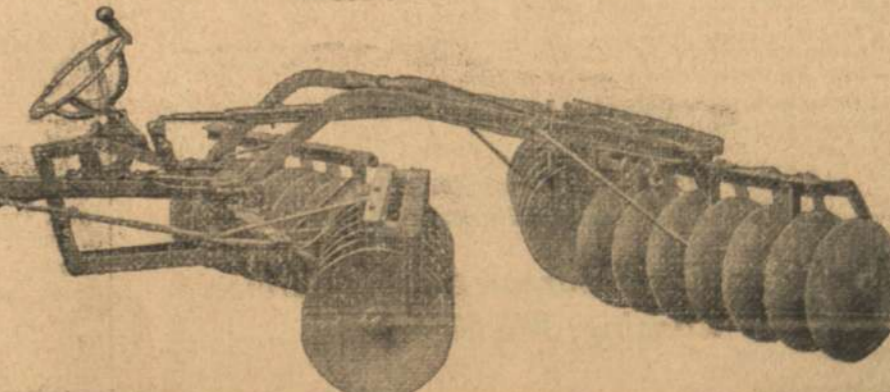
DUNHAM Tillage Tools have an admirable reputation for quality of the highest sort in Workmanship and Materials. The DUNHAM Cultipacker is noted as being "useful in more ways on more days" than any other field implement. The DUNHAM Company has long been an ardent supporter of the Farm Bureau; but only recently have we been able to quote such rock-bottom prices on their entire line.

Your nearest Farm Bureau supply service distributor can show you DUNHAM implements. Write today for circular and price list. Easy payments if desired.

Michigan Farm Bureau Supply Service Lansing, Michigan

Disc Harrows

A complete line. Horse-drawn models 5, 6, and 7 feet, single or tandem. Double Gang Tractor models 6, 7, and 8 feet. Electric Heat Treated discs. Gangs angled from tractor seat. Many other features.



Spike Tooth and Spring Tooth Harrows in a full range of sizes for tractor or horse operations. Rugged, all-steel construction.

CO-OP MGRS. AND BUREAU SERVICES CONFER JAN. 14-24

Scores of Ass'ns Interested In Nine Meetings at Various Points

Scores of co-operative associations managers throughout the State will be attending one or more of nine district conferences which the Michigan Farm Bureau Supply and Seed Services are holding in various cities in the period January 14 to 24 inclusive.

Co-operative managers and their sales staffs have been invited to meet with the seed and supply service representatives to discuss the important news for 1929 in farm machinery, the seed situation, timely information on dairy and poultry feeds and the sale thereof, and other Farm Bureau matters. Motion pictures, exhibits and luncheons together are part of the program.

Meetings open at 10 o'clock at the following places and continue through the afternoon:

- Jan. 14—Grand Rapids at the Grand Rapids Growers Ass'n., central standard time.
Jan. 15—Kalamazoo at Park-American hotel, central time.
Jan. 16—Ann Arbor, at Whitney hotel, eastern time.
Jan. 17—Port Huron at Chamber of Commerce, eastern time.
Jan. 18—Saginaw at Bancroft hotel, eastern time.
Jan. 21—Lansing at Kerns hotel, eastern time.
Jan. 22—Big Rapids, at Western hotel, central time.
Jan. 23—Ludington at Court House and Stearns hotel, central time.
Jan. 24—Traverse City at Park Place hotel, central time.

An Experienced Farm Hand is Seeking Work

James S. Miller of St. Johns, Michigan, R. F. D. No. 2, a married man with a family, wants to get work at once on a general farm within reasonable moving distance of Lansing or St. Johns, work by the year that can become a permanent location. Mr. Miller is a mature man with thorough farm experience covering twenty years.

If interested, write him at the above address, stating the kind of work, probable wages, house for family and other items that would be furnished. Also how and when you can be reached for an interview. Telephone call to Reverend Cross, at St. Johns, will reach Mr. Miller.

Put Appropriations Into Single Measure

A move to eliminate politics from measures for appropriating funds for state institutions has been undertaken with the compiling of a single appropriation bill which the State Legislature will act upon this winter.

Having all appropriations listed in a single measure will be advantageous in that it will give the law makers a more concise idea of the funds required and will serve to curb an old practice of "bantering and bartering" for appropriations for various purposes, it is claimed.

Highway Data Given By State Commission

Revision of Disbursements Might Cripple Program, Rogers Explains

By Frank F. Rogers, State Highway Commissioner.

Since it is impossible at this date to get a complete report on the weight tax collected for 1928, which will approximate \$18,800,000, the percentages used are based on the tax collected in 1927. That year Wayne county paid 39.15 per cent of the total weight tax collected and Wayne and the four counties bordering Wayne paid almost one-half of this tax, namely 48.1 per cent.

As compared with the state property tax in 1927, Wayne county paid 49.09 per cent of the state tax and in 1928 will pay 49.24 per cent of the state tax which shows that this particular county gains about 11 per cent when it pays for road building through the weight and gas tax instead of by general property tax. This assumes that the gas tax is proportional to the weight tax in each county.

The gas tax in 1928 will approximate \$17,000,000, possibly a little more, whereas the combined weight and gas tax, from which all the state road building revenue comes, except Federal Aid, will approximate \$36,000,000.

This total sum is the same as I have been estimating for some months past, but it has now developed that the weight tax will be nearly \$2,000,000 in excess of the gas tax for the current calendar year.

The fixed charges cannot be materially changed and are: To the counties from the weight tax, \$9,400,000; interest and sinking fund on road bond issue, \$4,200,000; state rewards, \$2,000,000; maintenance, \$5,500,000; departmental expenses, \$300,000 and to the cities, \$500,000; totaling, \$21,900,000. Since the maintenance this year was approximately \$5,600,000 it is safe to call this total sum \$22,000,000 which deducted from the \$36,000,000 leaves only \$14,000,000 for a construction fund which will be supplemented by Federal Aid amounting to approximately \$2,250,000.

Since our last financial statement showed roads under contract amounting to \$15,361,650.83, it is apparent that so far as the present fiscal year is concerned, about as many roads have been placed under contract as should be before mid-summer, 1929.

Should Protect Building Fund The point I wish to emphasize is that any money diverted from the gas or weight tax for other purposes than those now provided in the present law, will all have to come from the construction fund.

In 1928, we completed 400 miles of pavement and a total of 515 miles of improved roads.

Of course it is a problem for the legislature and the administration to settle as to whether the state shall settle down to a mere maintenance policy or whether the insistent demands for new construction shall be heeded and the work continued, at least at the present rate of approximately 5500 miles of new road per year.

I have already said enough to indicate that any material reduction in the weight tax or diversion from either the weight tax or the gas tax

for other purposes, will necessarily all come out of new construction.

A permanent license plate or an annual license plate at a nominal rate would necessarily produce the same results.

In the first place it is very desirable, to prevent the stealing of automobiles, that the owner of each car at least once a year prove his title to the car and secure a new license plate.

Personally, I do not see how a permanent license plate, were it ever so desirable, could be made legible year after year.

Further, if the average value of automobiles in the state, including trucks, is estimated at \$800 per vehicle, which is lower than some estimate, the value of motor vehicles in Michigan is at least \$1,000,000,000, which is approximately one-eighth as much as the entire assessed valuation of the state.

The average property tax in 1927 as determined by the State Board of Tax Commissioners for the purpose of assessing railroads and telephone companies, was \$29.10 per thousand. The average weight tax paid per motor vehicle in 1927 was \$14.58. If these cars had been taxed on an ad valorem basis valued at \$800 per car with a tax rate of \$29.10 per thousand, they would have paid an average of \$23.28 per vehicle or \$8.70 per vehicle on the average more than they are now paying. There are only 12 states which do not assess motor vehicles as personal property in addition to the annual license.

At least 23 counties will have returned to them, a sum greater than the whole weight tax collected in those counties.

Gas Tax

The law providing for a gas tax specifically provides that it is a privilege tax which means that it is paid for the privilege of using the highways and is in no sense a tax on the vehicle using them.

In 1926, the last full year in which the two cent gas tax was collected, the motor vehicles of the state used 503,687,600 gallons of gas. Assuming that each car traveled an average of ten miles on a gallon, they must have traveled 5,036,876,000 miles over Michigan highways. Had they paid a toll at one-half the old toll rates or one cent a mile, they would have paid to the state for the use of the highways in 1926 more than \$50,000,000 while as a matter of fact in 1926 the total tax collected for the use of the highways (weight and gas tax combined) amounted to only \$27,027,436.86, or about one-half cent per mile.

SPUD MEN DISCUSS POTATO SITUATION

Growers, Shippers, Carriers Review Big Problem at Special Meeting

Grading, shipping and the orderly marketing of Michigan's surplus potato crop were made the subjects of discussion at a special joint meeting of the potato committee of the Great Lakes Regional Advisory Board and the Michigan division of the national potato committee, recently organized, schedule to convene at Hotel Parkland, at Grand Rapids, Thursday, Jan. 10.

Grading laws, tariffs, means for improving the quality of potatoes, education of the public to the value of the lowly spud and ways of avoiding the acute price depressions of recent months were other topics slated for this meeting.

The Michigan State Department of Agriculture, the State Farm Bureau, Michigan State College, farm papers, growers, shippers, dealers and others having an interest in potatoes were invited to take part.

Samuel Metzger, of Greenville, president of the Michigan Potato Shippers Association, was on the program to present resolutions which were adopted at a meeting of potato interests, recently. F. P. Hibst, manager of the Michigan Potato Growers Exchange, was assigned the topic, "The Need of Close Co-operation Between Michigan Potato Interests."

P. B. Dukeshner, director of the bureau of foods of the State Department of Agriculture, was chairman of the meeting, assisted by W. H. Esslinger, supervising inspector of fruits and vegetables for the state department.

Agricultural Agents Cited For Activities

Two county agricultural agents of Michigan were awarded cups, recently, for conducting the most effective program in their respective territories. The western Michigan agent to be honored was R. L. Olds of Kalamazoo County, who has served as county agent for the past thirteen years. J. G. Wells of Ingham County, who is serving his first year as County Agent, but who has been in extension work in northern Michigan for some time, was the agent for eastern Michigan to be so honored. The cups were presented by the extension department.

Kent Bureau Set to Hold Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Kent County Farm Bureau will be held Friday, Jan. 18, at the Association of Commerce in Grand Rapids. The program will start at 10 o'clock with the report and election of officers and election of delegates for the state convention. Dinner will be served in the Association of Commerce dining room at noon.

On the program in the afternoon will be Lee Bierce, secretary of the Grand Rapids Association of Commerce, Clark Brody, secretary of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, David Woodman, district agent for the Michigan State Farm Bureau, Agnes Sorson, Kent County Home Demonstration Agent, and K. K. Vining, Kent County Farm Agent.

M. B. McPherson, president of the Kent County Farm Bureau, will preside.

Shakespeare Staff "The worst is yet to be," quoted the wailer as it slid into the sausage machine.

Ottawa Institutes New Plan For Meet

With M. L. Noon, president of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, as speaker of the day, Ottawa County Farm Bureau is planning its annual meeting for January 24.

The Ottawa Bureau in doing this is broadening the scope of its annual meeting to include all of the members. In the past only representatives from each township have attended but it is thought that in inviting in the entire membership a larger and better Farm Bureau meeting will be held.

Each director is taking upon himself the responsibility of calling as many Farm Bureau members in his township as he can, urging them to be present at the meeting.

David Woodman, district representative of four western Michigan counties for the Farm Bureau, will also be present and speak.

Oysters Top List Oysters are more valuable than any other single product of the fisheries.

Mrs. Wagar Speaks At Western Meeting

Mrs. Edith M. Wagar, of Carleton, Michigan, is to have charge of the

community section of the program the tenth annual convention of Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation which convenes at Hotel St. Fran in St. Paul, next Monday.

Safety State Mutual Rodded Fire Insurance Co. of Mich. First

Poverty is staring you in the face if you are carrying your own Fire Insurance. Many a farmer has lost his farm or labored under a mortgage the remainder of his life by neglecting to buy a good fire insurance policy.

Let us protect you. We have more insurance in force and more cash assets than any Farm Mutual Fire Insurance Co. in Michigan.

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Satisfaction

Comes from buying where quality never changes That is why there are so many satisfied customers who wear Farm Bureau clothing and who come back for repeat orders of Farm Bureau pure wool bed blankets, auto blankets and auto robes and soft woven, woolen underwear.

FILE YOUR MEASUREMENTS For suits and overcoats, and make purchases at any time by mail order. Parcels are sent out, prepaid, for cash or C. O. D.

Enclose A Signed Patronage Dividend Coupon For 5 Per Cent Discount.

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Michigan State Farm Bureau 221-227 N. Cedar St. Lansing, Mich.

FREIGHT RATES On Farm Commodities

Sometimes have overcharge errors. Do you have your bills audited?

THE TRAFFIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Of the Michigan State Farm Bureau will check up the charges on your freight bills; file overcharge claims; file loss and damage claims; watch all freight rates on your farm products and supplies and be your personal representative to the railroads. Claims collected free for paid-up Farm Bureau members.

No Charge For Auditing

Farm Bureau Traffic Department 221-227 N. Cedar St. Lansing, Mich.

Wise Men will Buy Farm Bureau Alfalfa NOW

There is a shortage of seed adapted to Michigan and the northern United States.

Drying winds and early frost cut Utah's 1928 alfalfa seed crop, a principal source of supply, from the past three years' average of 16,000,000 lbs. to 4,000,000 lbs. of cleaned seed. Other seed producing areas harvested short crops.

Alfalfa acreages are increasing. Seed prices are advancing for 1929. We expect additional advances as seeding time approaches.

We advise getting your Farm Bureau alfalfa seed from your local distributor AT ONCE and taking advantage of his present price. New stocks of seed undoubtedly will cost more. If you have no local distributor, write us.

FARM BUREAU SEED DISTRIBUTORS

- Akron—Roy Seears.
Albion Elevator Company.
Allegan Farmers Co-Op.
Amble Marketing Association.
Ann Arbor—Chas. McCalla.
Auburn Farmers Co-Op.
Avoca—Kerr & Collins.
Bad Axe—Farmers Elevator Company.
Bangor Co-Op Association.
Barrington Potato Association.
Bastavia Co-Op Company.
Battle Creek Farm Bureau Association.
Beaumont—Sam Asch.
Belding Co-Op Company.
Bellevue Co-Op Elevator.
Bellair—Farmers Marketing Association.
Benton Center Fruit Association.
Beulah—Benjie Co-Op.
Big Rapids Co-Op Association.
Birch Run—Byron J. Smith.
Blanchard Wholesale Association.
Boyer Co-Op Company.
Bridgewater—Farmers Produce Co.
Briston—Paul Clemens.
Bronson Co-Op Association.
Brown City—M. W. Frey.
Brooklyn Co-Op Association.
Brunswick—Tri-County Farm Bureau.
Buchanan—St. Joe Valley Shipping Association.
Burr Oak Co-Op Association.
Byron—J. Fred Smith.
Byron Center Co-Op Company.
Cadmus Farm Bureau Association.
Cadillac Co-Op Company.
Caledonia Farmers Elevator Company.
Carleton—Lloyd Purves.
Caro Farmers Elevator.
Carsonville Farm Bureau.
Capac—Chas. Steich.
Caseville—W. A. Gwinn.
Cass City—Farm Produce Co.
Cass City—Greenleaf Farm Bureau.
Cassopolis—Central Farmers Association.
Cedar Produce Exchange.
Cedar Springs—Harry Shaw.
Centerville Co-Op Association.
Central Lake Marketing Association.
Charlevoix Co-Op Association.
Charlotte—Farmers Elevator Company.
Cheboygan—Hub Mercantile Company.
Chesaning—Lee D. Ferden.
Clinton Grain Company.
Clio—W. C. Piles.
Coldwater Co-Op Company.
Coleman Farm Bureau Association.
Coloma—Berrien Fruit Association.
Colon Elevator Company.
Constantine Co-Op Association.
Concord Co-Op Company.
Copersville Co-Op Elevator Company.
Corunna—F. F. Walworth.
Croswell Co-Op Company.
Davison—Bert Stimson.
Decker Farm Bureau.
Deerfield Farm Bureau.
Decatur Elevator Company.
Delton Co-Op Association.
Dexter Agricultural Association.
Dorr—Salem Co-Op Association.
Dozier Farm Bureau Exchange.
Downs Farm Co-Op Association.
East Jordan Co-Op Association.
Eaton Rapids Shipping Association.
Eau Claire Farmers Exchange.
Edmore Marketing Association.
Elk Rapids Marketing Association.
Ellsworth Co-Op Association.
Elmira Wholesale Association.
Elkton Co-Op Farm Produce Co.
Elsie—H. F. Lewis.
Erie Farm Bureau Local (Service Temperance).
Escanaba—Delta County Farm Bureau.
Ewart Marketing Association.
Fairgrove—Otto Montel.
Falmouth Co-Op Mktg. Association.
Fenton—Jno. B. Hoffman.
Fennwick Marketing Association.
Fennville Farm Bureau.
Flint—J. H. Taylor.
Fowler Farmers Co-Op Elevator.
Fowlerville Farmers Co-Op.
Frankenmuth Farm Bureau Co-Op.
Freemont Co-Op Produce Co.
Gagetown Local.
Gallen—Lynn J. Pardee.
Galesburg—Otsego Co-Op Association.
Gladwin—Farmers Shpg. Association.
Goodrich Coal Company.
Gowens Marketing Association.
Grand Blanc Co-Op Elevator.
Grand Haven Farm Bureau.
Grand Rapids Growers, Inc.
Grand Lodge Produce Company.
Grant Creamery Company.
Graying—Crawford Co-Op.
Grass Lake Farmers Elevator.
Greenville Co-Op Association.
Hamilton Farm Bureau.
Harbor Beach—Geo. Wroble.
Harrison Elevator Company.
Hart Co-Op Association.
Hartford Grain Co-Op Elevator.
Hartland—W. C. Wakeman & Son.
Harvard Marketing Association.
Haslett Elevator Association.
Hastings Co-Op Elevator.
Hemlock Co-Op Creamery Company.
Hersey Produce Association.
Highland Produce Association.
Hilldale Co-Op Company.
Hillman Marketing Association.
Holland Co-Op Association.
Homer Farmers Elevator.
Hopkins Co-Op Creamery.
Hoswell—Livingston Co-Op.
Hudsonville Co-Op Association.
Hudson—Farmers Co-Op Association.
Ida Farmers Co-Op Company.
Ironwood—Raymond Dick.
Jackson—Geo. Loomis.
Jamestown—Farmers Co-Op.
Jeddo—Edw. J. O'Connor.
Jones Co-Op Association.
Jonsville—Grill Hardware Co.
Kalamazoo—Farmers Produce Company.
Kaleva—Co-Op Merc. & Pro. Co.
Kent City Farm Bureau.
Kingsley Co-Op Association.
Lake Odessa Co-Op Association.
Lakeview Marketing Association.
Lapeer—C. F. Smith.
Lawrence Co-Op Association.
Lenon—Earl West.
Leonard Farm Bureau.
Leroy Marketing Association.
Lewiston Marketing Association.
Linden—Claus Tiedman.
Litchfield Shippers Association.
Ludington Fruit Exchange.
Luther—F. A. Smith Produce Co.
Manacela Marketing Association.
Manchester Roller Mills.
Maple Rapids Produce Company.
Marlette Farmers Co-Op.
Marine City Farmers Elevator.
Marcellus—Four County Co-Op.
Marne—Berlin Co-Op Elevator.
Martin Farmers Co-Op.
Mason—Ingham County Farm Bureau.
Maybee Farm Bureau.
McBride Marketing Association.
McBain—Farmers Whse. Association.
McGregor Farm Bureau.
Memphis Co-Op Company.
Menthon—A. M. Todd Company.
Merrill Shipping Association.
Metamor—Hadley Agrl. Association.
Middleville Co-Op Association.
Midland Farm Bureau Supply Store.
Millington Farm Bureau.
Milan—Henry Hartman.
Milburg Growers Exchange.
Minden City—Farmers Elev. Company.
Montrose—J. Hill.
Montross—Montross Farm Bureau Local.
Montague—White Lake Marketing Association.
Montgomery—Tri-State Co-Op.
Morrice—F. E. Church.
Mt. Clemens—Farmers Milling Co.
Mt. Pleasant Co-Op Elevator.
Muir Farm Bureau.
Munith Co-Op Association.
Muskegon Heights Co-Op Dairy.
New Lothrop—G. C. Dillon.
New Boston—Huron F. Bur. Association.
New Haven Farmers Elevator.
Newberry—W. F. Gormley.
Neosho City—Buckley Mktg. Association.
Niles—St. Joe Valley Shipping Association.
North Star—Roy Wolfe.
North Street—Guy B. Sischo.
Northport—Lelanau Township Farm Bureau.
North Adams—E. I. Williams & Son.
Norway Farm Bureau.
North Branch—Webster Elevator Co.
Okemos Elevator Company.
Onekama Farm Bureau.
Ortonville Shipping Association.
Ottawa Lake—Whitford Township Farm Bureau.
Owasco—R. V. Beardale.
Oxford Co-Op Elevator.
Parma Co-Op Elevator Company.
Paw Paw Co-Op Association.
Pellston—Jno. D. Robinson.
Perry—C. H. Arnold.
Petersburg—Farmers Marketing & Supply Company.
Pewamo Farm Bureau.
Pinckney—J. B. Livermore & Son.
Plainwell Farm Co-Op Association.
Plymouth—Levi Clemens.
Pontiac—Quality Feed Store.
Portland Farm Bureau.
Port Hope—Farmers Co-Op Association.
Prattville Co-Op Association.
Prescott Co-Op Association.
Promont Co-Op Mktg. Association.
Pullman Farmers Co-Op Association.
Quincy Co-Op Company.
Ravenna Inc. Butter Company.
Reading Co-Op Company.
Reese Farm Bureau.
Reynolds—Farmers Association.
Richmond—Weeks Brothers.
Richland—C. F. Bissell.
Rivers Junction—Rives Co-Op Association.
Rockford Farm Bureau.
Rockford Co-Op Company.
Rodney Co-Op Association.
Rogers City Co-Op Mktg. Association.
Rommel Farm Bureau.
Roscommon—Earl Carlson.
Ruth Co-Op Company.
Saginaw Farm Bureau Supply Store.
Saline Mercantile Company.
Sandston—Fred T. Sackrider.
Saranac—Fred E. Cahoon.
Saugatuck Fruit Exchange.
Schoolcraft—Geo. H. Stuart.
Scotts—Walter Horstfall.
Scottville—Mason County Co-Op.
Shelby—New Era Association.
Sherwood Co-Op Association.
Silverwood—M. D. Lynch.
Sidney Marketing Association.
Smith Creek—E. H. & H. E. Neal.
Snover Co-Op Elevator.
Sodus Fruit Exchange.
South Lyon—B. Calhoun.
South Haven Fruit Exchange.
Sparta Co-Op Association.
Springport—Crosel Elevator Company.
Stanton Elevator Company.
Stanwood Marketing Association.
Sault Ste. Marie—Chippewa County Co-Op.
Stephenson Marketing Association.
Sterling—Farmers Co-Op Association.
Stevensville—St. Joe Michigan Fruit Association.
St. Charles—W. C. Terry.
St. Johns Agricultural Association.
St. Louis—L. S. Sonley.
St. Clair—Jno. Mau & Company.
Sturgis Co-Op Association.
Sunfield—Fred Jackson.
Suttons Bay—Lelanau Potato Growers Exchange.
Swartz Creek—Harry Jennings.
O'Flin—R. J.
Swartz Creek—Wilbur Short.
Tekonsha—Farmers Co-Op Company.
Three Oaks Shipping Association.
Three Rivers Co-Op Exchange.
Traverse City—Farmers Co-Op Association.
Traverse City—Ruthard Growers Association.
Trufant Farm Bureau.
Tustin Co-Op Association.
Union City Co-Op Company.
Van—David Inglis.
Vernon—W. H. Sherman.
Vestaburg Marketing Association.
Willsburg—E. W. Southworth.
Waldron—Raymond B. Lasev.
Walled Lake—Ray H. Riser.
Wallace—J. G. Mullen.
Wallace Potato Exchange.
Warren Co-Op Company.
Washington Co-Op Company.
Watertown Co-Op (Sandusky).
Waterford Farm Bureau Supply Company.
Wayland—Fred D. Hilbert.
West Branch Farmers Elevator.
White Pigeon Co-Op Association.
White Cloud Co-Op Association.
Whitney—R. A. Aldrich Company.
Whittemore—Josco Elevator Company.
Wills—Gorton & Wright.
Woodland Farm Bureau Exchange.
Wolverine—Harry Sowton.
Yale Elevator Company.
Ypsilanti Farm Bureau Association.
Zeeland Farmers Co-Op Association.

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Our poultry mashes are built to give a hen the most in palatability and digestibility. This is coupled with a balance that makes the most eggs possible for each hundred pounds fed.

A low fiber content by using oat flours instead of ground oats and four middlings instead of standard middlings, further assures you more eggs for each dollar's worth of feed.

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