







Community Farm Bureau Secretaries Win Prizes

Two Community Farm Bureau secretaries were awarded prizes this month as a result of having made 12 months of outstanding reports of their meetings. They are Mrs. Esther Carris of the Lawrence Community Farm Bureau in VanBuren county and Mrs. R. J. Anderson of the Lincoln River Community Farm Bureau in Mason county.

Both secretaries sent in reports for every month of the Community Farm Bureau year, September 1937-September 1938. The minutes were well written, comprehensive and summarized the thinking and activities of their groups in excellent fashion.

A similar award will be made for the coming Community Farm Bureau year.

Fall Plowing Stops Bean Maggot

Plowing under legumes for beans is a good practice IF the stand is good. Spring plowing gives the maggots a better chance to be on the job when the beans arrive. Fall plowing of legumes is desirable.



Advertisement for K-R-O rat poison, featuring an illustration of a rat and text describing the product's effectiveness and safety.

Advertisement for Pilot Brand Oyster Shell Flake, featuring an illustration of a ship's wheel and text describing the product's quality for cooking.

Advertisement for Martin Steel Cribs, showing various styles of steel buildings (Single Shed, Waggon, Round, Oblong) and providing contact information for The Martin Steel Products Co.

Advertisement for Bethanized Fence, featuring an illustration of a farmer and text explaining the benefits of the zinc coating and the company's services.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC. LANSING, MICHIGAN

County Farm Bureau Leaders at Lansing adopt strong set of membership principles

County Farm Bureau leaders from 33 counties met with the membership relations department of the Michigan State Farm Bureau at Lansing, Sept. 28 and drafted a strong program of Farm Bureau organization principles.

"We leaders in agriculture should know where we are going. We should challenge what we did yesterday, and what we are planning today. We should believe that we can meet and solve our problems through an organization that operates on the principles of democracy . . . where the authority and the program comes from the grass roots," said Donald Kirkpatrick of the American Farm Bureau Federation in a keynote address to the group.

"The original plan of the Farm Bureau was to have County Farm Bureaus of loyal, aggressive, intelligent citizens who are interested in working together in their mutual interest. We believe in free discussion. We believe in developing an organization and a leadership in the County, State and American Farm Bureaus to carry out the programs initiated by the people in the counties.

FUNDAMENTALS WE RECOGNIZE that the major task of the Michigan State Farm Bureau is to keep the farmers of the state continually and permanently organized; that only through organization can the farmer maintain himself in the proper relationship to his fellow farmers necessary to meet and solve the problems that require the combined power and influence of all; that the strength and usefulness of our organization is measured directly by the number of members who are thoroughly converted to the cause of co-operation; and that the morale so created is the rock upon which all Farm Bureau functions must rest.

more active in the future in safeguarding the interests of the membership organization. (6) That uninterested business men should not be accepted to Farm Bureau membership. (7) That local units be maintained. (8) That there be a definite local program.

ISSUES WHEREAS, we realize that no man belongs to an organization because of what has been done but because a member of that organization only because of the problems that still need to be solved; that what has been done is only a yardstick by which we measure the probability and possibility of that organization trying to solve the problems of the future. WE RECOMMEND: (1) That each county develop a program of things which they desire to accomplish in the years to come and that these, with the program of the Michigan State Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation, become the issues upon which Farm Bureau membership is solicited and built, and included in this program shall be the following:

COMMUNITY FARM BUREAUS WHEREAS, we are of the opinion that no membership can be long maintained or remain loyal to any organization unless that membership is informed and given the opportunity for expressing itself and for participating in the program of that organization at intervals more often than at the time of annual county or state meetings. WE RECOMMEND: (1) organizing all Farm Bureau members into Community Farm Bureaus as quickly as is possible for the purpose of studying the Farm Bureau program and the problems of agriculture so that they may intelligently participate in the accomplishment of the issues involved. We further recommend that the county boards assign to the groups the membership in the county with the consent of the member;

and refreshing of memory as to Farm Bureau accomplishments and the general program on the part of those participating is worthwhile, WE RECOMMEND: (1) that each county Farm Bureau plan to stage a campaign for new members at a time likely to get the best results, preferably before spring work starts; (2) that a goal should be set up for all campaigns in order that progress may be as great as it should be and that for this purpose membership quotas for each County Farm Bureau be set up each year;

FINANCE WHEREAS, we believe that no organization can carry on an adequate program without adequate financing and that the average farmer can be convinced that the carrying on of an adequate program is worth adequate financing, WE RECOMMEND: (1) the matter of adequately financing the Farm Bureau program be considered fundamentally; (2) that adequately financing the program of the membership become the concern of all Farm Bureau groups, and that in the period of inadequate financing of the membership department the Farm Bureau Services, Inc., shall aid more with the promotional expense; (3) that placing financing on a sound basis for carrying out an adequate program be carefully considered.

(1) That the building and maintaining of Farm Bureau membership be the primary activity of all county and community Farm Bureau organizations. (2) That all Farm Bureau activities, business and otherwise, must be to a greater extent so conducted as to be of the greatest possible support to the membership and organization morale. (3) That to attain this end a close and unified working relationship between membership, general service, and business activities is recognized as an essential in the operation of the Michigan State Farm Bureau and its subsidiaries. (4) That the Farm Bureau membership receive a greater share of the net earnings of the Farm Bureau Services, Inc. (5) That the Farm Bureau representatives on the Services board be

BECAUSE we believe no program for building or maintaining a Farm Bureau membership of any size can accomplish the desired results unless there is the placing and acceptance of responsibility. WE RECOMMEND: (1) that the responsibility of building and maintaining a membership be primarily that of the County Farm Bureau; (2) that the State Farm Bureau, through its district representatives, be given the responsibility of assisting, advising, and correlating membership activities; (3) that in the case of the County Farm Bureau, leadership should consist of the County Farm Bureau Board who at all times should set an example in accepting responsibility for securing the desired results. Be it further recommended that each County Farm Bureau have a nominating committee to be appointed by the county board and said committee to present at least two names for each director and that in counties where community groups are actively functioning that each club shall name a person or persons who will actively accept said responsibility on the county board, these recommendations to be presented to the county nominating committee and further nominations to be made from the floor; (4) that the membership in the county should at all times support their leaders not only in word but in deed and accept the responsibility for bringing about the execution of membership programs as devised by the leaders and community Farm Bureau clubs, it being understood, of course, that the plans of the leaders at all times conform with the desires of the membership; (5) that there be named in each county at least a membership director, a community Farm Bureau director and also be it recommended that each of the directors of the county board be given a department of responsibility such as publicity, legislative, marketing, services, general agriculture, insurance, extension, and schools; also that the school commissioner and county agricultural agent be named associate directors of the board. We recommend that within the limits of a portion and that wherever possible a portion of the local funds be made available to these directors to carry on their activities; (6) that there should be a closer working relationship with the various other factors in the county also interested in the welfare of the farmer and that the responsibility of bringing these together rest with the county Farm Bureau leaders.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGNS WHEREAS, we believe that each Farm Bureau member should be contacted as often as possible throughout the year in order that he may be informed and enthused and other farmers not already members to be given an opportunity to become members, and that the revival of enthusiasm

It costs you about the same to plow and plant a field, whether it yields 15 or 50 bushels to the acre. Your taxes are about the same, regardless of your harvest. We have to run trains regardless of the volume of traffic, which means keeping up the whole railroad plant of the nation, with 418,000 miles of trackage. And in 1938, car loads are off about one-fourth compared to 1937—and little more than half what they were in 1929. Our taxes are pretty largely on property, just as they are—and we pay them whether we make money or not, at the rate of a million dollars a day. Beyond that, we have to meet a pay roll that takes just about half our total income. The wage rate per hour is now the highest it has ever been. We're paying our employees an average of more than 77¢ per hour—10¢ an hour more than in 1929. When you get at the core of the railroad problem, it comes down to this: It is due, at bottom, to the fact that railroads must operate under rigid regulations based on a fifty-year-old theory that they have a monopoly in transportation—and must compete with three other forms of transportation subsidized or helped by tax money. What they need is the opportunity to run their business as a business—which means, greater freedom to adjust rates to meet competition and to adjust expenses to the conditions of their business. The American railroads have worked out a complete program taking a sensible look at their needs. As one of the nation's leading group of shippers, you have a real interest in what that program is. We'll be glad to send you a copy if you'll write for it today.

Advertisement for American Railroads, titled "Something you can check in your own experience about 'THE RAILROAD PROBLEM'". It includes text about the railroad industry's challenges and a "SAFETY FIRST" slogan.



