

80 BOYS WIN PLACES IN FFA BAND

Chosen from 200 Rural High School Bands; To Give 18 Concerts

July 11-15 the Future Farmers of America band from Michigan will assemble at the State Dept. of Vocational Education camp near Allegan for a four day rehearsal period, preliminary to the fourth annual series of summer concerts by the band.

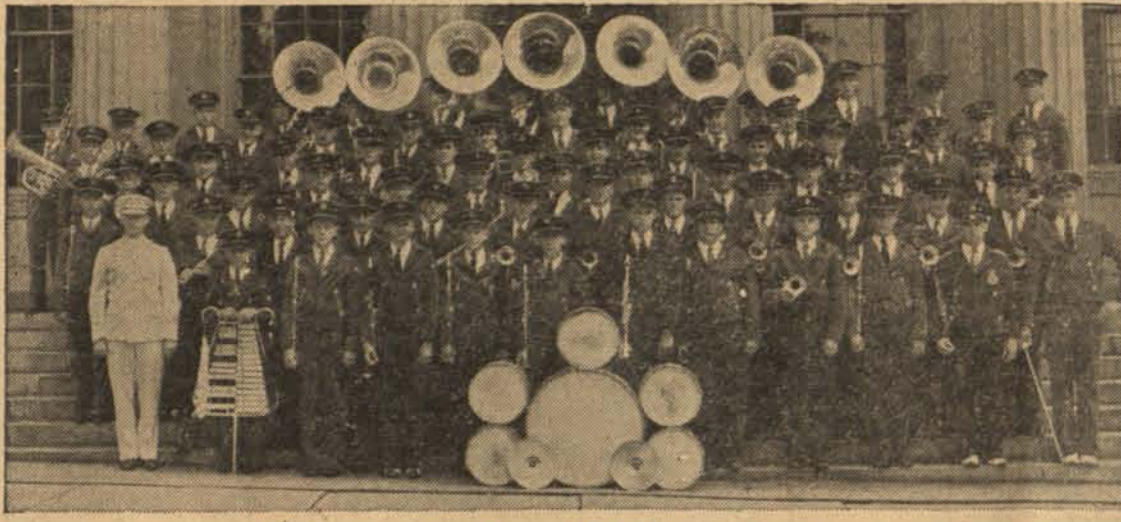
The 80 boys in the band were chosen from applicants from more than 200 rural high schools in this state. Final tests were given May 4-5 at State College. Selections were made by Nick Musselman, director of the band, and instructor music at the Okemos high school, and by Joseph Weiman, instructor in music at Mason high school. Miss Jean McCurdy, Bellevue high school junior is soloist for the band this year.

The band will present a series of concerts in a swing around the state. These have been financed by local community groups, such as the chambers of commerce. The concerts are free to the public. The boys will finance their stay at the Allegan camp. They'll travel by bus. Behind them will be a truck loaded with army cots, blankets, and baggage. They'll sleep in high school gymnasiums. They're really on tour when they start.

Following are the concert dates, all evening performances except those noted:

- July 13—Plainwell (aft.)
- 13—Fennville
- 14—South Haven (aft.)
- 14—Kalamazoo
- 15—Shelby
- 16—Manistee (aft.)
- 16—Beulah
- 17-18-19—Traverse City
- 20—Cadillac
- 21—Midland
- 22—Bad Axe
- 23—Caro
- 24—State College (aft.)
- 24—Byron
- 25—Grand Ledge
- 26—College (Farmers Day)

Future Farmers Band to Tour State This Month



MICHIGAN'S FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA BAND

Soloist



MISS JEAN MCCURDY

Miss McCurdy, a junior student at Bellevue high school, Eaton county, is soloist with the Future Farmers of America band from Michigan rural high schools for their 1940 concert tour. She is a lyric soprano and has studied voice under the direction of Fred Patton of Michigan State College. Miss McCurdy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McCurdy of Bellevue.

Some Observations Direct from the Farm

On Farm Crops and Income, Political Oratory, and About People

By MRS. EDITH M. WAGAR

Some years ago, farmers planned their work so as not to be caught by the June freshets. They hurried to get the corn cultivated and the late potatoes planted before the customary wet spell came and they delayed hay cutting until it had passed. But the month of June this year has been one intermittent shower with hardly a day escaping.

It is surprising how well the ground has taken all of the water that has fallen and it is also surprising how patient the farmers have been. There's one thing that is consoling. When farm prices are at their low point the loss of a hay crop or the injury to the grain crops doesn't seem to hit so hard as it might when more money is

involved.

Strains The Budget
The farm man or woman who can live up to a previously arranged budget under conditions thru which we are now passing is entitled to a medal of some sort.

But, notwithstanding all of the disappointments of short or ruined crops and a much depleted income, we can all count our blessings many times over. Maybe these setbacks are all for our good even if we don't see it just now. The real farmer will stick and will aim to make at some future time what he's losing today.

There are very few things that are as black as they seem at first. For instance, the census that was taken a short time ago. What a howl went over the country against "paid agents prying into one's business" and the manner in which one had made his money and the amount that you had of it, etc. What a lot of publicity was raised against it! When it came our turn to be questioned we found it was really no different than any other census had been.

That experience should be a good example to think about during the next few months of political oratory. One never knows how much to believe or if they should believe any of it or not.

I will not say that politicians are all liars but the majority of them only tell half of the truth and that's worse than a lie in my estimation. As a campaign draws to a close, sometimes I'm so disgusted with the whole outfit that I've lost most of my enthusiasm for voting.

City Women Interested

During the past month I've attended a few group meetings that in some ways have been just a bit different. The Jackson branch of the American Farm and Garden Association invited me to come to them and to tell them where they could buy good Michigan butter, and eggs and poultry and meats and fruit and potatoes, and also to explain the milk marketing law. They were interested in all Michigan production and talked about beet sugar and lard and home grown vegetables and canned goods. They were women who wanted quality above all else and who desired to cooperate with the home producer. I was so glad that I could recommend the many co-operative organizations of their own state. I have been thinking about some forms of closer cooperation between our numerous commodity organizations and such consumer groups as these.

An Old Friend

On my return trip, I spent the night with Mrs. M. L. Noon at Jackson, R-7, near Michigan Center. Mr. Noon was president of the Michigan State Farm Bureau for many years. I am sure many of you will want to hear of her, just as she wanted to hear about the old friends. She's at the farm, living alone, with nearby friends caring for her needs. She's keeping the farm up in good repair just as she knows Mr. Noon would have done if he were still with her. She can't help but be lonely, for since she was widowed she has lost one of her two sons and the other is stationed in Escanaba, hoping to regain his broken health.

We visited long into the night. I realized how changed her life must

be and how negligent we all are of those who at one time spent so many years in the thick of Farm Bureau activities and suddenly find themselves entirely out of it. I wonder if we cannot inject a little more human kindness, a little more sympathy and a little more personal thoughtfulness towards our older members?

A Beautiful Tribute

I attended another gathering of a different nature, one that warmed my heart immensely. It was the unveiling of the portrait of a classmate all thru high school. This fine exhibition of honor and gratitude was held in the Wilson School in Detroit, where he has been the principal for thirty years. It was a gift to the school from the alumni. The entire neighborhood was there to do him honor. I never heard so many kind words for any one individual before and they all spoke in a way that one knew they meant it. They didn't wait until he was retired from work or was dead. They let him know that they appreciated his faithful and efficient work. It was doubly pleasing to me for I knew how little he had when a boy and how he had to work for his education as he went along.

I was greatly impressed with the absence of fuss and feathers. There were no white flannels or party gowns in evidence. The flowers were those that came from the gardens of the neighborhood. There was no expense whatever but it was one happy occasion for all concerned. I compared it (in my mind) with some of the functions of a local high school where no home talent was considered good enough, where nothing but elaborate and costly decorations could be thought of, and the clothes worn compared well with a spring style parade. The only part to be remembered was the rumor of the large deficit for the already over-burdened dads to pay. It will be a happy day for our rural people when we get away from our small town snobbishness and make the best of what we have and learn to like it.

Institute of Co-operation

At the coming Institute for Co-operation I hope we can learn how co-operatives can co-operate and that co-operatives are organized for the sole purpose of serving the farmer for better quality, for greater returns and for efficiency.

We've just recently had an oil company lay another pipe line through our farm. After watching their operations for several days, I'm thoroughly convinced that if the farmers used some overlapping methods for equipment, material, labor and time, as appeared on the surface with this company and the cost of it all was added to the commodities that farmers sell,

there would be no more 15 cent eggs or five dollar hogs. Why, we just don't know how to spend money! There were more bosses, and straw losses and foremen and overseers and then each had a car or a truck or pickup and the gang of men and the little work each one did!

Farm Planks and Facts

I noticed in the agricultural plant of the platform adopted at the convention last week, they expressed a greater efficiency in production and I wondered why they singled out agriculture. I truly believe we'd have many other things besides food that would be cheap if the same standards of efficiency could be applied to all crafts.

But it's up to the farmer. He can go his own way alone and take what's handed out to him or he can join hands with his neighbors and say what he'll take. If that time ever comes, he'll not only command respect from others but he'll feel more for himself.

Lapeer Bureau Plans Farmers Picnic Aug. 3

The Lapeer County Farm Bureau is sponsoring a Farmers picnic Saturday, August 3, at Palmer's Lansing, Pleasant lake. It is to be a basket picnic. There will be ball games, plenty of contests and other forms of entertainment. Everyone is welcome to attend. The general committee is: Mrs. Kenyon Davis, entertainment for the ladies; Murray Phelps, entertainment for men; Carl Neilson, grounds arrangements; Carl Neilson, George Martin, Albert Gusta, prizes; Edwin Martus and Charles Myus, publicity.

Genesee Farm Bureau Picnic July 25

Genesee County Farm Bureau members will have a county-wide picnic at Richfield park Thursday, July 25. The picnic will feature a basket dinner, games and contests, and an opportunity to renew acquaintances. It will be an afternoon of relaxation and fun.

It is not a paying investment for the average farmer to trapnest his flock.

Why Some Will Have Hybrid Corn Trouble

We had a great many callers this spring in regard to hybrid corn, said S. J. Culver, county agr'l agent for Jackson county. In this county, he said, we don't have to advise using hybrid seed corn. One farmer told me that he would have to lock his front gate to keep hybrid seed agents off his land. As in former years, we got much Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois hybrid seed stock for sale. Some of it I know to be good, but other varieties will produce only some very "washy" silage, provided the growers can cut it early enough to avoid early frosts.

Montcalm Members Visit State Farm Bureau

June 29 the men and women of the Montcalm County Farm Bureau were guests of the Michigan State Farm Bureau at Lansing. About 40 persons came. They visited the seed and supplies departments of the Farm Bureau Services, the Farm Bureau Insurance department, and other offices of the Farm Bureau. After luncheon at the Farm Bureau, they heard J. F. Yaeger of the Membership relations department speak on the subject of farm organization.

ment speak on the subject of farm organization.

One quarter of the entire output of maple syrup in New York and Vermont goes into the treatment of tobacco to give it sweetness and flavor.

One desirable factor in feeding wet mash to poultry is that this increases palatability.

AURORA TURBINE Jet Water Systems for Deep Wells

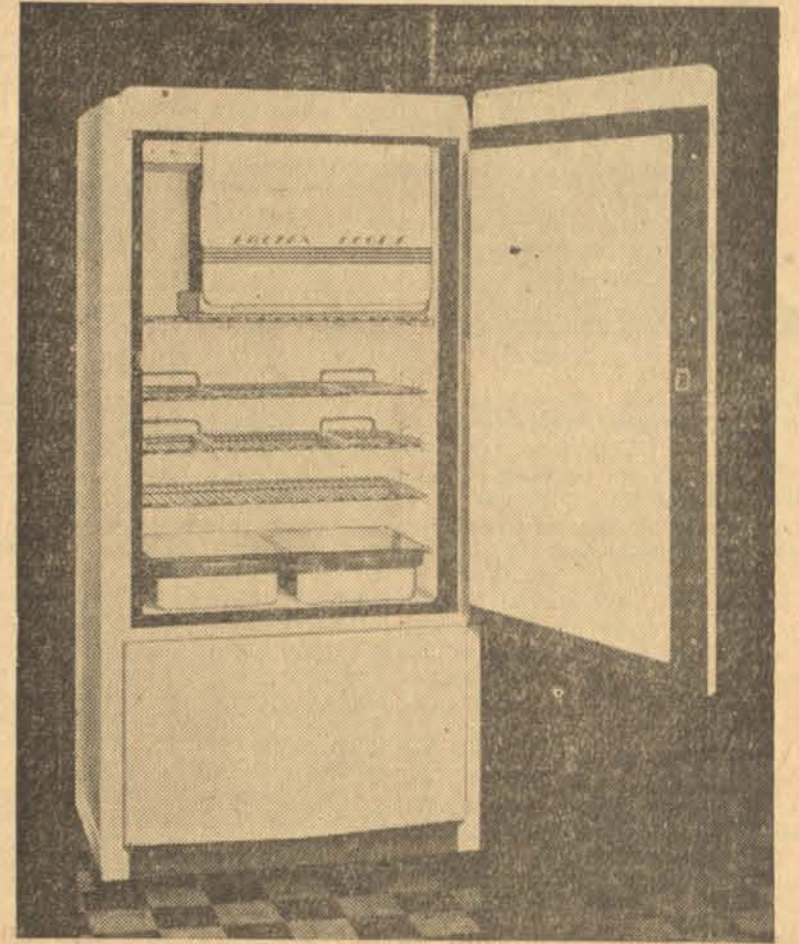
Large Capacity—Aurora Jet turbines usually deliver 1 1/2 to 2 times as much water as a plunger pump with an equal size motor. Capacities from 200 to 3,500 gals. per hour. Noiseless—No bells, gears, valves, rods, cylinders or cup leathers to cause trouble and repair bills. No moving part in the well. Install Anywhere! Directly over well in pit, or in basement, any distance from well. Concrete pit not necessary.

Safe—Impossible to contaminate water supply due to surface water getting into pit. For use on wells from 2 inches diameter up.

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Nearly a Bushel of Frozen Food Space!



Oversize 8 cu. ft.

(Hermetically Sealed Unit)

Co-op Refrigerator \$200⁵⁰

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DRIED SKIMMILK
Dried Buttermilk
Dried Whey
Condensed Buttermilk
Quotations Made to Elevators
By Wire or Mail
DRY MILK SALES DIVISION
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Brown Heads Indiana Machinery Program

Ralph O. Brown, former head of the farm machinery department for Farm Bureau Services, and manager of Farm Bureau Services branch stores, is now manager of the farm equipment department for the Indiana Farm Bureau Co-operative Ass'n at Indianapolis. Mr. Brown left Michigan to become manager of the Knox County Farm Bureau at Vincennes, Indiana.

EVERY YOUNG MAN

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MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU
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AVERY CO-OP SIDE DELIVERY RAKE

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