





UDF Sets Goal At 3,000,000 Members

The United Mine Workers officially began their drive last week as a conclusion to a meeting in Washington, to enroll 3,000,000 dairy farmers in their subsidiary union, United Dairy Farmers.

The drive began in the New York milk shed. A statement issued at headquarters of the mine union said, "We are not going to burn barns or

shoot cows. That's absurd. The United Mine Workers of America never have engaged in such tactics and we don't plan to start now."

Bullock Too Much for UDF at Ovid

At a recent meeting of the United Dairy Farmers held at Ovid in Clinton county the United Dairy Farmers, an affiliate of the United Mine Workers, admitted that their campaign in Lapeer county had not been too successful and blamed the Farm Bureau and The Lapeer County Press.

Director of Oceana Farm Bureau Killed

George Foster, a director of the Oceana County Farm Bureau for several years, was killed April 20 on his farm when a tractor overturned. He is survived by Mrs. Foster, four sons and a daughter.

The American Farm Bureau supports and defends the American way of life.

Why Risk \$10.00 to save a dime? INOCULATE ALL LEGUMES

A good crop may consume \$10 per acre in Nitrogen taken free from the air if inoculated. Robbed from the land if the seed was not inoculated. UNICULTURE costs only 5 to 10c per acre!

IT'S UP TO US!



Spring is Always a Time to be Enjoyed

All of Us Should Take Time To Appreciate Beauty About Us.

By MRS. EDITH M. WAGAR

When we look about us these days and see the fields greening so rapidly, and the fruit trees covered with their pink and white blossoms...

How we wish we might enjoy the beautiful days with the complacency and the appreciation that we feel should normally be our privilege!

All of my life I've rebelled somewhat against housecleaning interrupting the full enjoyment of spring beauty.

There's nothing quite so near earth's heaven as the farm in the spring.

I feel guilty that perhaps I have allowed my thoughts to wander away from the big job.

Then again I wonder if it isn't all the better for us to allow ourselves all of the enjoyment we can squeeze in from our flowers and our books...

There's much to be said about the complacency of the American people but when one stops to tabulate what's being done by all around us, we haven't much to criticize after all.

What About Canning This Year?

I can't help but wonder about some things. Every one wants to be loyal and patriotic and saving and generous, but just what are we going to do now with the fruit crop that we can naturally expect?

The farmer would be satisfied with a very modest profit to be applied on his debts or to purchase much needed equipment to operate his farm more efficiently but he must fight his utmost if he gets it.

He does some serious thinking when he reads from Congressional reports that the rent paid for 1700 pieces of equipment for the government was said to be \$400,000 more than their actual value and that one firm producing basic magnesium was reported to stand to make a profit of \$250,000.

I was told by one who had authoritative information that a commercial firm of Detroit converted their plant to war work and had a contract guaranteeing them a profit after all expenses were paid and the plant was honeycombed with excessive expenses.

Those are some of the things that make farmers do some serious thinking while doing their best under all sorts of handicaps to keep the farm production up for war victory.

Labor Got to the Top We hear and read all sorts of slaps against Madam Perkins these days and I assure you I hold no brief for her, but we must all agree she thinks of labor all of the time.

Today American labor is getting the highest wage ever before heard of anywhere. Whatever we think of it and how we may consider its effect on the country as a whole in the future, we must admit labor has gone to the peak.

If every department of government had been the watch dog of their particular group as they should have been, labor never would have reached

the domineering position it now holds. When will agriculture be led by a Secretary who will live, fight and die for agriculture? When that day comes the farmer will enjoy the rewards of his toil. Until then he must be thankful for what he is allowed.

HARD SEEDS IN ALFALFA, CLOVER ARE LIVE SEEDS

All Sprout During Growing Season; Hard Seeds Insure Full Stand

What about hard seeds in alfalfa, red clover, and sweet clover? The College of Agriculture at the University of Wisconsin asked in a special bulletin in 1940.

Hard seeds, according to the bulletin, are live seeds which fail to absorb moisture and sprout when kept for the official time of 5 or 6 days in a laboratory under good growing conditions. They must be reported on the test tags used for this testing.

Beneficial in Alfalfa Seed There is less delay in the germination of hard seeds in alfalfa, the bulletin said. After sowing in the spring, some may germinate in two weeks—others in four to six weeks.

As much as 30 to 50% of alfalfa seeds may be hard without a reduction in the final stand of spring or early summer sown alfalfa, if the rate of seeding is above 12 lbs. per acre.

Hard alfalfa seeds have an insurance value, especially with spring and early summer sown alfalfa. It is seldom advisable to scarify alfalfa seed that is scratch or break the seed coat by a mechanical scarifying process.

Hard seeds in red clover are harder and slower to sprout. They accumulate in the soil and a reserve of them often helps to thicken stands thinned by harsh conditions.

When 30 to 40% of red clover seed is hard, an increase in the rate of sowing may be necessary. If the rate of seeding is more than 8 lbs. per acre and the seeds are not sown too deeply, no increase is needed.

Hard Seeds in Sweet Clover Hard seeds in sweet clover are very hard. They may live in the soil for several years without sprouting.

They are undesirable when in later years they produce volunteer plants of sweet clover in fields of alfalfa and red clover grown for seed, or when such plants occur in hay fields and small grains where they interfere with harvest and reduce the quality.

Hard seeds may be very desirable in permanent pastures, where the volunteer plants benefit the soil and the pasture. In unhulled sweet clover, of one-fourth or more of hard seed is sown in permanent pastures in late fall or early winter, a high percentage of hard seeds is very desirable.

We do not scarify sweet clover in Michigan.

Hard Seeds and Seeding Rates If all the seeds of alfalfa, red clover, or sweet clover could be sown at exactly the proper depth, and if conditions were so ideal that each seed would produce a strong healthy plant, only two pounds of seed per acre would be needed, the Wisconsin College of Agriculture said in its bulletin.

Such a low rate is impractical. The broadcast seedings, it continued. The field losses from natural hazards are so great as to require an increase of from 3 to 6 times the theoretical seeding requirement.

Hard seeds are variously delayed in germination though soil conditions are very favorable for sprouting.

Hard seeds, said the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, are not bad seeds in the sense that they are diseased or weak. They appear to be a provision of nature to safeguard the survival of plants by keeping a reserve of live seeds in the soil.

Services Sells 20 Tons of Garden Seeds

The Farm Bureau Services Garden Seed Dept., has done a bigger job this year, than any previous year in its history in supplying garden and flower seeds. The volume was so much greater than anticipated that the department maintained day and night crews to keep up with flood of orders.

Approximately 9,000 seed orders were filled. This amounted to nearly 20 tons of seeds, and that is a lot of seed when it is put up in five and ten cent packages.

Michigan hybrid corn acreage will double in 1942.

COUNTY LEADERS CONSIDER FUTURE

Farm Bureau To Aid College Extension Service in Food Program

County Farm Bureau leaders meeting at Lansing, April 19, took the following actions for County Farm Bureau and the Community Farm Bureau in war time:

1. Agreed that the first duty of the Farm Bureau organization is to support the nation's war program for victory.

2. Will co-operate to the fullest extent to the extension division of the Michigan State College in its food and other war time programs.

3. Named a standing committee; J. F. Yaeger and Stanley Powell for the Farm Bureau, and R. J. Baldwin, director of extension for Michigan State College, to suggest such programs for the Farm Bureau for the duration. The topics suggested by the committee will be referred to the Community Farm Bureaus before being scheduled for the year.

4. Voted to discontinue as a war measure the summer series of district meetings for delegates from Community Farm Bureaus.

5. Recommended the formation of smaller Community Farm Bureau groups to reduce travelling distance for meetings, but final decision will be left in each instance to the County Farm Bureau and the people of the Community Farm Bureau.

Mr. Baldwin said that the extension service is seeking a leader in each community for its war time program for food production.

Ruth Farmers Elevator a Success

After 5 years in business the Ruth Farmers Elevator, Inc., has one of the best success stories in its field. When the group started the odds were greatly against them.

Today they have 508 stockholders and last year they did business with 902 patrons. They have taken on many new services, the most recent being petroleum. They will handle all kinds of fuel and have storage facilities to stock 58,000 gallons. Their oil department will be operated on the same co-operation principals as their elevator. There is no price cutting. The profits go to the customers who patronize the organization.

Eugene Smaltz Joins Membership Relations Dep't

Eugene Smaltz, former president of the Junior Farm Bureau of Isabella county, has joined the membership relations dep't of the Michigan State Farm Bureau. He will do membership and community Farm Bureau work in central Michigan. He came to the Farm Bureau from the research dep't of the state offices of the Agr'l Adjustment Administration at Lansing.

FARM BUREAU CO-OP CHICKS. U.S. Approved—U. S. Poultry Controlled. Send for FREE BOOKLET "Story of Co-operative Hatcheries".

THIS YEAR PUT IN SOME... MINGO SOY BEANS. Brier Hill Farm, Carleton, Monroe Co. Used in Michigan. On the trial plots at Michigan State College they were considered as good as Manhus.

ACT NOW! Lime your sour fields now—do your part in our greater production towards all-out war effort. FRANCE AGSTONE has been aiding production successfully for over twenty-five years.

STATE FARM MUTUAL Pays Man Who Pays Premiums. This mutual company is 20 years old. From the start its policy has been to give its policyholders MORE insurance protection for their money and to REDUCE the cost. This is how the Company stood at the close of 1941:



Mrs. WAGAR

PURE CRUSHED TRIPLE SCREENED OYSTER SHELL FOR POULTRY. MANUFACTURED BY THE FARM BUREAU MILLING CO. INC. CHICAGO, ILL.

HOW TO MAKE wartime tractors WORK HARDER and LAST LONGER. THERE is no time this year for tractors to break down. There is no place for tractor engines that waste power and fuel. Here are three things that will help give you all the power of your tractor all the time:





