



## EDITORIAL

### The Issue is Joined

During November and December another terrific battle is in prospect in Congress on the subject of food subsidies. President Roosevelt has placed the weight of the administration behind a drive for authority and funds from Congress for as complete a program of food subsidies as the administration may think we should have.

The President has discarded the terms producer subsidies and consumer subsidies. His new term is war subsidies. Under that he includes support prices offered by the government, to assure production, and subsidies paid to processors and others to permit rolling back of retail prices for consumers. He said that the government has put \$800,000,000 into such operations so far.

President Roosevelt sent a 10,000 word message to Congress November 1 in favor of the food subsidy program. Apparently it has not changed very much the strong opposition in Congress to food subsidies. For a few days after the message was delivered, the Senate committee on agriculture included in a bill before it a provision to forbid any government agency to use federal funds for food subsidies.

Undoubtedly, the fight will be waged on whether or not the Commodity Credit Corporation shall have authority and funds for subsidies. The life of the CCC expires January 1 unless renewed by Congress. House and Senate committees on banking and currency have reported bills to renew the life of the CCC, but the bills deny authority and funds to the CCC for food subsidies. The action by the Senate committee on agriculture tells us that Congress has made a pointed reply to the President's message.

### We Did Well in '43

The Michigan State Farm Bureau has a membership of 20,993 families. We rank 11th among the 44 State Farm Bureaus from the standpoint of total membership.

The past year we made a net gain of 5,600 families. Actually, we enrolled more than 7,000 new members. But, for net gains we rank third among the State Farm Bureaus so far this year. Indiana and Iowa have net gains of about 8,500 families each. Illinois is trying for 8,000 for 1943 in order to have 100,000 members on its rolls. So we may finish in fourth or fifth position for net gains, but that is very good, too.

We did much better in 1943 than we set out to do. A year ago we set 18,000 paid-up members as our membership goal. We go into the annual meeting with 20,933 members, and rank fourth among the 44 State Farm Bureaus for the percentage by which we exceeded our goal.

How well can we do in 1944?

Let's remember that in 1933 Farm Bureau members in Illinois resolved to show a substantial net gain in membership every year. They have doubled a large membership in ten years time. About half the farmers in Illinois are members of the Farm Bureau.

We can do something like that for the 45 or 50 counties in which we have County Farm Bureau organizations.

### Mr. Lockwood, Again

One of the spectacles of the day has been the first page articles in the Detroit Free Press in which Charles C. Lockwood and others have assailed the Michigan Milk Association and all its works.

During late October deliveries of milk to Detroit declined considerably. The Ass'n pointed out that a seasonal decline was to be expected, and that on the other hand, a number of factors, including a large increase in population, had increased the consumption of milk. Therefore, a shortage of milk. The seasonal decline in milk production was confirmed by such authorities as A. C. Baltzer of State College, and Charles Figy, state commissioner of agriculture.

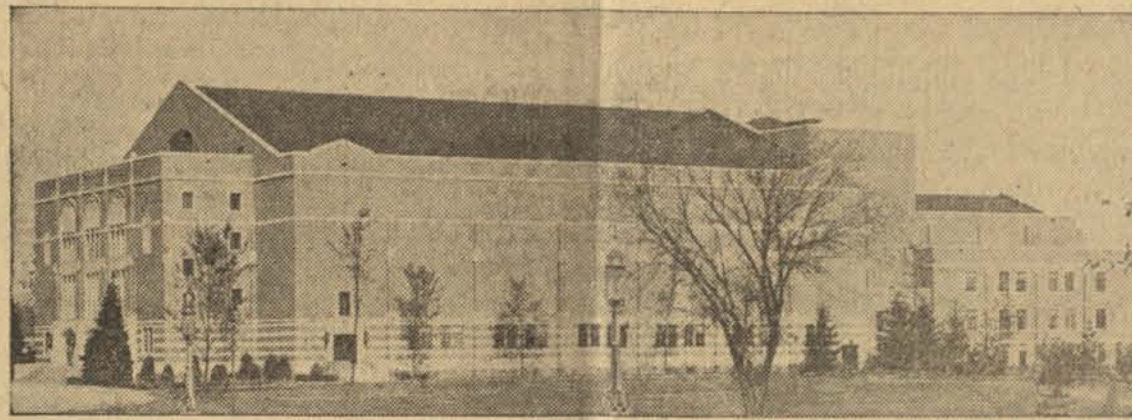
But Mr. Lockwood, an attorney, and connected with the Greater Detroit Consumers Council, whatever that is, charged that the whole thing was a squeeze play by the Milk Producers Ass'n to boost retail milk prices in Detroit. Mr. Lockwood declared too that the base and surplus marketing plan used by the Ass'n is forced upon producers for the benefit of distributors. He sought to convey the impression that the 14,000 members of the Milk Producers would get rid of their officers and directors if they could. Some of Mr. Lockwood's friends spread stories that farmers were dumping their milk to the hogs rather than send it to Detroit.

All of this was reported in the Free Press as the statements of Mr. Lockwood and his associates. So was the challenge of the State Grange in convention

(Continued on page two)

## Members Invited to Annual Meeting

Place of Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Nov. 10 and 11



MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE AUDITORIUM and FAIRCHILD THEATRE

### PROGRAM

#### 24th Annual Meeting

### Michigan State Farm Bureau

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10  
All Meetings on Eastern War Time

9:30 a. m. Annual business meeting of the Michigan State Farm Bureau convenes at Fairchild theatre, New Auditorium. Ample parking facilities nearby.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.....CLARENCE J. REID

SECRETARY'S REPORT.....CLARK L. BRODY

12:00 m. Adjourn for lunch

2:00 p. m. Business session

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Nomination of directors

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

8:00 p. m. Program at Fairchild Theatre

Vernon-Shiawassee Farm Bureau Women's Chorus

Presentation of awards for membership work

"FARM MEMORIES".....ANNE CAMPBELL

ADDRESS.....EDWARD A. O'NEAL  
President, American Farm Bureau

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

9:00 a. m. Farm Bureau business meeting at Fairchild theatre

Consideration of Resolutions

Election of directors

New business

Adjournment

PRE-CONVENTION MEETINGS—Membership relations workers of the State and County Farm Bureaus will meet from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. Tuesday, November 9, in the Spartan Room, 4th floor, Union Bldg. Associated Women of the Farm Bureau will meet from 1 to 4 p. m. Tuesday, November 9, in Organization Rooms 1 and 2, Union building.

ROOMS—See complete information published on page 2.

TIME—All meetings on Lansing or eastern war time because of restaurant and other accommodations.

### On the Program



EDWARD A. O'NEAL  
President, American Farm Bureau  
Wednesday Evening



ANNE CAMPBELL  
Poet, The Detroit News  
Wednesday Evening



CLARENCE J. REID  
President, Mich. State Farm Bureau  
Wednesday Morning



CLARK L. BRODY  
Secretary, Mich. State Farm Bureau  
Wednesday Morning

Solomon S. Firestone, 100 years old, of Chester twp., Wayne county, Ohio, is believed to be the oldest Farm Bureau member in Ohio. He joined the Wayne county Farm Bureau at the organization meeting nearly 25 years ago.

## At State College November 10 and 11

Membership Relations and Associated Women  
Pre-Convention Meetings November 9  
While Directors Meet

More than 20,000 members of the Farm Bureau in 45 counties and 139 farmers' co-operatives ass'ns affiliated with the Farm Bureau may send as many as 560 voting delegates to the 24th annual meeting of the Michigan State Farm Bureau at Michigan State College Wednesday and Thursday, November 10 and 11. All members of the Farm Bureau are invited to attend.

Monday, November 8, the resolutions committee will convene at Lansing to draft resolutions presented by County and Community Farm Bureaus, farmers' co-ops and others for presentation to the convention Wednesday.

This year, because of conditions brought about by the war, there will be only two preconvention meetings Tuesday, November 9. County Farm Bureau leaders and all others interested in a working conference on building the membership are invited to such a meeting to be held in the Spartan room of the Union memorial building at State College from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

The Associated Women of the Farm Bureau will hold their annual meeting in the Union Building Tuesday from 1 to 4 p. m. in Organization rooms 1 and 2. Mrs. Charles W. Sewell, national director of the Associated Women, will speak. Finals will be held in the public speaking contest for women. Awards will be made for the best scrap books, and the judges will report on the Associated Women's contest for an official Farm Bureau song.

The State Farm Bureau board of directors holds its final business session of the year Tuesday. It will consider recommendations to the convention.

Because of conditions brought about by the war, there will be no annual dinner and party for the delegates this year. They will hear President Edward A. O'Neal of the A.F.B.F. at Fairchild theatre Wednesday evening.

### 1943 Was a Good Year

Prominent in the work done in the Farm Bureau during the past year were the following:

- (1) Increased the membership by about 5,000 families for the second consecutive year. The membership was 20,993 on November 6.
- (2) Established a public relations and labor service for co-operatives in co-operation with the commodity marketing exchanges and local associations.
- (3) Secured important help from the legislature, including enactment of anti-racketeering act to protect farm products from unlawful interference while en route to market by truck. Other helps included an improvement in the distribution of state aid to rural schools, and defeat of a proposal to make farm production supplies again subject to sales tax.
- (4) In state and national affairs the Farm Bureau was active in registering with the legislature, Congress and such agencies as the WFA, ODT, OPA and others farmers' recommendations regarding federal regulations affecting farm production, farm marketing and prices, and farm supplies.
- (5) The Farm Bureau strengthened and expanded its farm supplies service in 1943 through the acquisition of important manufacturing and distributing facilities in order to serve the membership as completely as possible on all supplies for war time production.
- (6) The Farm Bureau's insurance rose to new heights with a total of 88,000 cars and trucks insured with State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co. Large gains were made in life and fire insurance.
- (7) The Farm Bureau Fruit Products Company met most difficult conditions in the canning and preserving industries by inaugurating new services on fruits and vegetables at its Bay City, Coloma, and Hart plants.

### Seek 2,793 Here for Women's Army Corps

Michigan is seeking 2,793 enlistments of women in the WAC or Women's Army Corps by December 7 as part of a campaign to enroll 70,000 more women throughout the nation. Women from Michigan will go through their basic training as Michigan volunteers and may continue through the war as Michigan units. Applications should be made to the nearest WAC recruiting office. Applicants must be over 20 and under 50, of good character and good physical health and may have no dependents. Educational and mental requirements will be passed upon by the recruiting officer. The applicant must pass a physical examination. The army has

### Mason First To Announce Campaign

Mason County Farm Bureau will conduct its 1944 membership roll call campaign the week of Dec. 13. Wm. Dostal of Riverton is campaign manager. Mason is the first. Van Buren, Mecosta and other counties are considering December campaigns to get ahead of bad weather.

### Look Over Machinery

This is a good time to check farm machinery for repairs, replacement parts, to clean drill and planter attachments, grease bright parts and lubricate bearings for the winter. It was found that there are 155 non-combat job classifications in the army for which women are well adapted.

## House Committee Says CCC Can't Pay Subsidies

Following is a comparison of the recommendations made by the Farm Bureau, Grange and farm co-operatives to the House committee on banking and currency in Congress regarding the future activities of the Commodity Credit Corporation, and the action taken by the committee.

The government sought a second \$500,000,000 for government operations in farm products and foods. Presumably the funds were to be used in a broad reduction of the cost of foods to consumers through government subsidies.

September 30 and October 1 the farm groups testified against such procedure and made certain recommendations. October 10 the committee recommended continuation of the Commodity Credit Corporation, but without authority or funds for food subsidies. The CCC bill now goes before the House for debate and a vote.

#### Recommendations by The Farm Groups

- 1—Continuation of the Commodity Credit Corporation for its principal purpose, to sustain a floor under farm prices. It should be limited to such other services to agriculture as are now provided for by law.
- 2—That there should be no selling of farm commodities bought by CCC until prices approach the ceiling level except in case of deterioration of the commodity.
- 3—No ceiling should be established below the floor price.

#### Action Taken by House Committee

- 1—Continue CCC for 18 months after Jan. 1, 1944. Forbade agency to pay subsidies under any program inaugurated hereafter. Refused second \$500,000,000.
- 2—Adopted, substantially as recommended by the farm groups.
- 3—Adopted, substantially as recommended by farm groups. Ceilings set on farm commodities must be highest of following prices: support price, parity price, or highest average price for item between January 1, 1942 and September 15, 1943.









