

EDITORIAL

Congress Isn't Blaming Producers

An Associated Press article published throughout the nation, May 20 and 21 said that the United States is no longer the best fed nation in the world. Further, we face many months of curtailed diet in order to feed Europe.

In passing, England, Holland, and Norway are entitled to our help and need it. Belgium and France are in better shape. Perhaps we should help Italy, but why we should go without to assure Germany is beyond us.

The Associated Press tells us that nationwide our meat counters are bare. Poultry is increasingly scarce. Stores are reported closing their meat departments. We have observed that smaller packers are closing. Eggs are in such demand that they may soon join the list of food items hard to get. Butter is a thing of the past for most consumers. Some creameries have quit. The shortage of sugar is to become much more severe and will continue for some time.

All of this is notwithstanding the fact that American farmers have surpassed all production goals asked of them. We began when the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture asked in September of 1941 that dairy production be increased 7 per cent, hog production 15% and egg production 11 per cent. Last year farmers were credited with having increased total farm production 36% over the crop year of 1942, the largest in the nation's history to that time.

Congress is not blaming producers for these shortages at home. The armed forces and our obligations abroad are being taken care of first. Congress is blaming the home situation on various agencies in government which have control over prices and regulations. Committees and members of Congress say those agencies have been told what their policies may lead to, but they have been too late with too little too often.

A Congressional food study committee explains the beef situation by saying that feeders have tended to get out of live stock feeding. The committee said there is plenty of feed, but feeders don't have to buy cattle and feed them if they can't make profit at it, and on the contrary may lose their investment because of price regulations, or a changing of the rules in the middle of the crop.

The American and Michigan Farm Bureaus have presented such information to Congress and agencies of the government from time to time. What has happened in meats has been predicted. The change from a comparatively small shortage to a big one came in a hurry.

OUR TASK IS ONLY HALF DONE . . .



SAYS VINSON ORDER CAN'T END MEAT SHORTAGE

May 18 the federal government through Mr. Fred Vinson issued an order designed to relieve the shortage of meats. The Vinson order said that ceilings for good and choice cattle would not be lowered without notice, that an additional subsidy would be paid.

May 22 the Republican Congressional Food Study Committee in a statement said that the Vinson order is still trying to do by compulsion and insufficient subsidies what can be done only by an adequate profit incentive and a return to the normal processes of orderly marketing.

There is only one honest and effective way to eliminate black markets and whip the meat shortage, said the committee. It can be done only by giving legitimate producers, processors, distributors and retailers of meat the incentive of a reasonable profit to operate at top capacity. It can be established either by bringing the price structure of meats more nearly into line with the prices of other food commodities, or by subsidies which are so substantial they will have that effect.

The committee said that subsidies in the Vinson order amount to 1/4 of a cent a pound at the wholesale level whereas testimony to Congressional committees has indicated that 1 1/2 to 4 cents a pound are needed. The committee said that since 1933 beef and veal prices have been permitted to advance 18.9% as against a 46% advance for all foods, with fruits and vegetables up 82%, eggs 68%, dairy products 45%, fish 116%, sugar 32%. Such a situation, said the committee, doesn't make sense.

The federal government takes 50% of all meats from federally inspected packing plants. By OPA policies it is severely restricting activities of packers not under federal inspection within the states. They are going out of business. The committee said the Vinson order does nothing to restore incentives to keep those plants operating.

12,073 FAMILIES JOIN IN 1945

Twelve thousand and seventy-three farm families became new members of the Mich. Farm Bureau in campaigns conducted by 50 County Farm Bureaus during the early months of this year. Lapses of membership, or cancellations by reason of removal, quit farming and other causes may total 3,000. If these figures stand without further change, the organization has advanced from a membership of 29,000 to 38,000 since December 1, 1944.

In 1944 nearly 2,000 additional memberships were reported after the close of the campaign on March 31 before the end of the membership year, August 31. They were accounted for by the collection of old memberships, by renewals and new members.

Michigan has made the largest net gain of the 46 state Farm Bureaus this year.

F.B. Membership Cards Being Distributed

Annual membership cards, given to all paid-up members of the Farm Bureau, have been sent to all County Farm Bureau secretaries by the Michigan Farm Bureau membership relations dept. Secretaries have been distributing them. If you have not received yours, notify your County Secretary.

A Prayer

"Dear God, give us strength to accept with serenity the things we cannot change. And give us courage to change the things that should be changed. And give us wisdom to distinguish one from the other."—Admiral Thomas Hart, United States Navy.

The average cow drinks 25 gallons of water daily.

TO EXTEND RURAL PHONE SERVICE BEFORE LONG

The Michigan Bell Telephone Company has announced plans for a \$7,500,000 rural program within 3 to 5 years after manpower and materials are available.

This is a program in which the Michigan Farm Bureau has been interested, and has contributed to its development.

Theodore H. Dawson, director of the company's rural operations, said the program will include improvement in the quality of the farmer's service as well as extension of its scope.

In 1940, the company, in co-operation with Michigan farm leaders, set up a plan for customers to pay for farm-line construction through small, monthly installments. Since then, the company has installed service at nearly 14,500 additional farms, including 4,800 where construction was necessary.

Dawson disclosed that two-thirds of all rural homes in Michigan Bell territory are located along existing pole lines or near enough so that service can be provided without special construction charges.

Under consideration is the installation of small dial switching units near groups of farms, providing farm families more direct communication among each other and reducing the amount of line wire required to connect them to the telephone central office.

In co-operation with the Rural Electrification Administration and private power companies, the Bell Telephone Laboratories have been working on a means of providing service through the use of power lines. That method, known as "power line carrier," makes it possible for a high frequency current, carrying conversation, to "hitch hike" a ride along a power line and hop off to a pair of telephone wires serving the farmer's premises. Carrier also may be applied on telephone lines to provide more circuits over existing routes.

Dawson said the company will continue its program of converting the few remaining magnet-operated telephones to dial or common battery service and of reducing the number of parties on the line where excessive.

No July Edition of Michigan Farm News

We are obliged to combine our July and August editions in the number scheduled for August 4 in order to stay within the tonnage of newspaper allowed us by the War Production Board for 1945. Like all other publishers, we are restricted to not more than the amount of print paper we used in 1944. That year we had 14,000 subscribers to a 6 and 8 page paper. We have grown to 41,000, so we have to publish in 4 pages and skip one edition to stay within the quota allowed.

Presidential Succession Law of 1866

In order to provide that at no time should the nation be devoid of both president and vice-president, the Congress on January 19, 1866, passed a presidential succession law which provides the order in which members of the cabinet might succeed to the presidency if the offices of both president and vice-president were vacant.

The members of the president's cabinet, therefore, succeed in the following order: secretary of state, secretary of treasury, secretary of war, attorney general, postmaster general, secretary of the navy, and secretary of the interior. No mention is made of the secretaries of agriculture, commerce and labor because those offices in the president's cabinet were not created until after the passage of the presidential succession law. This law was certainly a wise one because at no time should our country be unable to function because of vacancies in both the offices of president and vice-president. Under our form of government, the moment one president dies, the vice-president, if there be one, advances to the position of president. Should there be no vice-president at that time, then the secretary of state would succeed to the presidency.

Buy Farm Bureau Seeds.

ECONOMIST LOOKS AT AGRICULTURE AFTER THE WAR

Members of the Michigan Farm Bureau who attended Midwest Farm Bureau states membership conferences at Iowa State College some years ago will remember Prof. Theodore Schultz for his speeches on the present and future condition of agriculture. He is now agricultural economist at the University of Chicago.

A short time ago Prof. Schultz delivered an address in which he said that the back-to-the-land idea as a means for fitting returning soldiers into the country's economy is an illusion. He had other things to say about the probable future of agriculture after the war that recall the pattern of agriculture in the 1920's following World War I. His thoughts indicate that farmers will have great need of such organizations as the Farm Bureau to meet the post war situations predicted by Prof. Schultz. He said:

"Open space is not itself economic opportunity," he warned. "There is not likely to be a shortage of farm land during the first two decades after the war. What we foresee is a 'farm problem' instead of a 'food problem,' and instead of hungry mouths begging for food, agricultural surpluses will go begging for a market."

The gist of the agricultural situation that is likely to confront the United States after the war, according to excerpts from Professor Schultz's address, includes the following:

Agriculture will stay in full production after the war regardless of the performance of business or of the level of foreign trade. This means that we are going to have a larger volume of farm products than during pre-war years. We will produce increasingly more with less effort.

The demand for farm products, on the other hand, will drop sharply as soon as relief needs are met and our granaries are refilled.

Chronic agricultural surpluses are likely to put in their appearance within two to five years after the war.

Farm prices, the governmental efforts to support them notwithstanding, are likely to decline markedly relative to other prices as the demand for food and fiber contracts.

The proportion of the working population engaged in farming will be considerably smaller after the war than it was in 1939. And to this extent the relative earnings of workers engaged in farming will be better than they would be if the pre-war proportion prevailed.

Studies indicate that the income elasticity of farm products is low, in fact much lower than is usually supposed.

Agriculture has become burdened with an excess supply of resources consisting mostly of labor. Advances in farm technology have made machinery, equipment, hybrid seeds and animals produce a high return. Thus, despite the excess supply of resources in agriculture, the new types of capital, especially those associated with improvements in technology, have been increased.

There are several things which this country should not do after the war. Do not repeat the mistake which this and other countries made after World War I when Governments initiated programs to put returning soldiers on the land.

Farm earnings have risen during the war, savings have been high, and in most sections of the country debts have been reduced. If these gains are not dissipated in a land boom, and if farm prices do not decline on the whole more than one-third, we may have a setting which will at least permit additional leisure and thus help absorb some of the excess supply of labor in agriculture.

DIRECTORS MEET JUNE 4-5-6

Directors of four groups in which Michigan Farm Bureau members are interested will hold meetings at Lansing in early June. Michigan Farm Bureau directors and directors of the Farm Bureau Fruit Products Company meet June 4. The Farm Bureau Services, Inc., board of directors will meet June 5. The Administrative Council of the Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Co-operatives meets June 6.

Directors of the Farm Bureau will consider legislative, membership, and public relations matters of interest to our membership. They will discuss recent and future operations of the membership organization with Executive Secretary Clark L. Brody. The Services board will hear reports on the feeds, seeds, fertilizer and other farm supplies services to our members and associated co-operatives. The board will consider recommendations for the future, as presented by Mr. Brody. Farm Bureau Fruit Products Company directors will deal with the sales and management services provided by co-operative canning plants at Hart, Coloma and Bay City. The Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Co-operatives is charged with carrying out an educational program to give the public a better understanding of farm co-operatives, and to meet attacks on co-operatives, such as those launched by the National Tax Equality Ass'n. The Council is the policy making body for that group.

Ohio Membership 40,000

Ohio Farm Bureau has more than 40,000 members this year, the highest figure in 22 years.

When you buy War Bonds you buy security—both financial security and security from the enemies of democracy.

Farm Bureau Program In the Legislature

Action on State Finances Included Defense Of 15 Mill Tax Limit Law, Conservation Of State's Surplus For Future

By STANLEY M. POWELL

In the May issue of the Michigan Farm News, we presented a partial summary of the measures of outstanding agricultural interest which were considered by the Michigan legislature in the 1945 session. Space in that article did not permit doing justice to the whole subject, so we had to carry over until this issue our report on the tax measures and appropriation bills which were considered by the legislature and which we felt would be of very great interest to you.

15 Mill Tax Limit—As had been expected, the session was marked by various far-reaching attacks on the 15 mill provision of the Michigan constitution. In the house, a resolution was offered providing for the outright and complete repeal of the 15 mill limit. This died in committee. A Senate proposal to liberalize the 15 mill amendment was in its original version, very drastic and far-reaching. Largely as a result of Farm Bureau influence, this proposal was so safeguarded that in its final form it would have made no change in existing provisions regarding operating expenses, but affected only capital expenditures. Space here does not permit a complete review of its final provisions. It was approved by the legislature, but defeated by the voters in the April election.

3% Sales Tax—In harmony with the Farm Bureau position, no change was made in the 3% sales tax or the exemption for farm production supplies.

Tax on Stored Grains—One of the first agricultural bills passed during the session exempts commercially stored grain and beans from the general property tax and imposes a specific tax of 2 mills per hundred pounds on such inventories. This was in accordance with the Farm Bureau program and is intended to encourage the development in Michigan of expanded grain storage facilities. This should be advantageous to farmers in stimulating local prices for Michigan grain and keeping down the cost of feed stuffs. It should also be helpful to the state as a whole through providing considerable employment and resulting in the development of a substantial and permanent industry in many Michigan communities.

Michigan Corporation Franchise Tax—The Farm Bureau delegates had protested the present ceiling of \$50,000. A bill to remove that ceiling, which now permits 18 large corporations to escape with a much lighter tax in proportion to their operations than is paid by the smaller corporations, was introduced and reported favorably by the senate taxation committee. Naturally, it encountered tremendous opposition from the 18 big business institutions, which would have been forced to pay more under its provisions. It was forced back into committee, where a hearing was held on it. Attorneys and spokesmen for the biggest corporations in the state appeared there in opposition to it. Despite the fact that the only support voiced at the hearing was from the spokesmen for the Michigan Farm Bureau, the bill was again reported favorable. However, it once more ran into such strong opposition on the floor of the senate that it was sent off to a graveyard committee.

State Aid to Local Gov'ts—Another one of the major issues throughout the session was as to further state aid for local units of government. All sorts of raids upon state resources were proposed, and insistently demanded by various powerful groups. The Farm Bureau's resolution had specified that no part of the present state surplus should be returned to local units of government, but should be conserved to meet the accumulating needs of state institutions, to discharge the state's responsibility to returning ex-servicemen and to meet expenses when receipts will be less.

The Farm Bureau had demanded that if any further returns to local units of government were deemed advisable, they should be made from funds earmarked for that specific purpose. The final action of the legislature was in harmony with the Farm Bureau position.

Aid From Liquor Tax—A 10% tax on liquor was enacted and the formula for distributing the proceeds, estimated at 10 million dollars, provides that the portion of the revenue which would be in proportion to Michigan's rural population, that is, to the population outside of cities and incorporated villages, would be distributed among the several counties on the basis of their McNitt highway mileage and would be used for the maintenance and improvement of such roads. While there was naturally among rural leaders in the legislature considerable difference of opinion as to just how this new revenue should be distributed and as to the purposes to which it should be devoted, there is no question but that the local roads can use the money to good advantage.

In fact, a Farm Bureau resolution had pointed out that adequate financing has never been provided for the roads taken over by the counties from the townships under the McNitt act. While revenues for highway purposes have been drastically reduced because of restrictions on the purchase and use of automobiles, higher wages have increased the expense of highway maintenance and construction. Certainly the new law is far more equitable than various proposals which have virtually counted the city population twice in the formula of distribution.

Intangibles Tax To Aid—Further state aid for local units of government was provided by a general revision of the Michigan intangible property tax act. It is expected that in its new form it may bring in about 6 1/2 million dollars. The present law has been yielding less than 3 1/2 million dollars annually. Whereas heretofore the state has retained one-third of the yield of the tax on intangible wealth, with the new law all of the proceeds will be distributed on a population basis to townships, cities and incorporated villages. The revenue coming back to the townships from this source will be under the control of the township board and may be used for capital expenditures or for the maintenance and improvement of the McNitt roads.

Urban spokesmen are not particularly happy about some features of these two bills. They complain that city people will not get back nearly as much as they pay in liquor and intangible taxes. Neither of these levies will impose any great burden on the typical farm family. The added revenue coming back to assist in making possible better local roads will be very timely and helpful.

Gasoline Tax—A proposal to increase the gas tax to 4c per gallon was coupled with a new formula for distributing gas and weight tax revenues, which would have been very undesirable from the rural standpoint. This was killed in the senate highway committee.

Agri Items in the Budget—The budget for the next two years amounts to about \$162,000,000 annually. In general, the appropriations for projects in which Farm Bureau members are particularly interested were at a satisfactory level. They include items aggregating over a million dollars for each of the next two years for the State Department of Agriculture. Included in these totals are the grants for state and county fair premiums and for 4-H and FFA shows, as recommended by the Farm Bureau delegates, and also the grants for control of Bang's disease and tuberculosis in cattle.

For predatory animal control, \$40,000 per year was made available from the game protection fund and \$25,000 annually from the general fund. In addition, \$25,000 was included in the deficiency appropriation bill to take care of accumulated coyote bounties over and above those paid by the regular biennial appropriation. There was also allowed \$20,000 for each of the next 2 years for predatory red fox control.

Adult Education—A Farm Bureau resolution had endorsed Michigan's experimental program of adult education and had urged that this be continued. The legislature appropriated \$225,000 for each of

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EINAR UNGREN.....Editor and Business Manager

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HIRAM and MARTHA

BY R. S. CLARK

The Old Quadrille

To us who've passed the fifty mark and view with jaundiced eye
The ever-quickening tempo of the present sweeping by
It sometimes seems that all the joys of earlier, sprier days
Have passed from sight forever in obliterating haze.

It seems that nothing of the life that made our youth so bright
Can have a place in this mad race which is today's delight.
But what is this I read today upon the social page?
The old square dance is back to stay. Quadrilles are all the rage.

The old square dance with all its fun redoubled, it would seem,
Is back again and going strong; is strictly on the beam.
They're even holding dancing school to teach the older step;
To inoculate with olden love the devotees of the pep.

No more need Susie cut the rug, for all across the land
Is heard the thrumming music from the fiddler's hand.
The second fiddler pats his foot and calls the changes still
While young and old fill up the floor to dance the old quadrille.

No longer need the hep-cats prance and jive and spin and spraddle;
The light fantastic has returned to bump the hot skeddadle.
The polka and the lively reel are back in vogue again
Which girls may tread as ladies all; and boys like gentlemen.

Oh, never think that I assume frivolity is gone,
For nimble toes bespeak light hearts, and youth goes on and on.
The world has need of lots of smiles and gaiety and mirth
To heal the wounds and cure the blues of this myopic earth.

Perhaps it is a rural trait -- outmoded and passe --
But I, for one, would gladly hear the tunes of yesterday;
Would gladly see old dances done by young and old as well
And sense gay laughter from the heart before we say farewell.

Then take your places two and two, in couples four and four
And let us tread the Ocean Wave as in the years of yore;
"The first two gents cross over--and by the ladies stand,
Next two girls cross over--and all join hands;
Salute the corner lady--and salute your partner all;
Take the corner lady and promenade the hall."

R. S. Clark
315 North Grinnell Street
Jackson, Michigan

CO-OPS DEFEND FUTURE OF FAMILY FARM

A free and independent agriculture in America is unthinkable without farm co-operatives.

This opinion was expressed by C. L. Brody, executive secretary of the Michigan Farm Bureau, in an address to the annual meeting of the Ohio Farm Bureau Co-operative Ass'n at Columbus recently.

"The family sized farm," Mr. Brody said, "can not possibly be maintained in the future without co-ops to defend it. The co-operatives protect it on the one hand from exploitation by monopoly, and on the other hand from excessive regulation by government.

"A prosperous farm population can not long be maintained if farmers are permanently forced to sell at wholesale and buy at retail," Mr. Brody added. "In fact, without co-ops there is no free enterprise for farmers."

He pointed out that the farmer has in the past been exploited by some interests. This exploitation has been checked by co-operative action.

"We must manage to resolve the conflict between agriculture, industry and labor. We must see to it that each group promotes the welfare of the whole people, and not solely its own selfish interests. We must employ less pressure, and secure more inter-group harmony. Much can be accomplished just by meeting the other fellow and setting his point of view."

Farm Bureau Program In The Legislature

(Continued from page 1)

the next 2 years for this purpose. A Michigan tourist council was established and \$250,000 per year was made available to lure tourists to Michigan. A Michigan agricultural council was also set up and provided with \$50,000 per year of funds to be expended under their direction. In addition, a fund for agricultural advertising amounting to \$25,000 per year was made available for expenditure by the Commissioner of Agriculture. A bill to set up a cherry advertising campaign to be financed by a levy of 1/10 of a cent per pound on cherries processed in canneries was approved by the Senate, but was defeated in the House.

State Aid for Schools—Of course, the biggest appropriation of all was that for state aid for schools. This was a bitterly fought issue and was only settled after the legislative clocks had been stopped for more than 12 hours beyond the time set for final adjournment. In the end, \$56,800,000 was granted for each of the next 2 years to be distributed substantially on the basis of the present formula, which is regarded as very desirable from the rural point of view.

AFBF on National Network June 10

The Necessity for Unity of Industry, Agriculture and Labor Now and in the Future will be discussed Sunday, June 10, at 1:15 p. m. EWT, over the NBC network by these national leaders: Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce; William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; Congressman Cannon of Missouri; and President Edward A. O'Neal of the American Farm Bureau.

When Flying High
Crew members of the new B-29 Superfortresses dispense with oxygen masks and extremely heavy clothing when flying at high altitudes because special superchargers keep the air pressure inside the planes nearly normal at all times.

Callous Selfishness

"Fundamentally, the force that rules the world is conduct, whether it be moral or immoral. If it is moral, at least there may be some hope for the world. If immoral, there is not only no hope, but no prospect of anything but destruction of all that has been accomplished during the last 5,000 years."

This statement was made last December by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, 83, and for the past 44 years president of Columbia university of New York city. He has been a great influence upon the education in our public schools. Dr. Butler made the statement in a year-end message in which he traced the world's present plight to "plain immorality growing out of callous selfishness."

Community Farm Bureau Activities

By MRS. MARJORIE KARKER
Membership Relations and Education

I thought you who discussed "Rural Health" during April would be interested in knowing the results of the questionnaire sent out by request of the American Farm Bureau Federation. It asked whether or not rural people of the United States would be interested in doing something for themselves as regards better hospitals, more doctors available for rural communities, etc.

One hundred six questionnaires were returned to this office. The groups answering were almost unanimous in saying that they do not want a government sponsored medical care program. They prefer a better medical care program for rural people but one sponsored and controlled by farm people.

In answer to the questions as to whether there would be any interest in the organization of a medical co-operative association in your county, 48 said yes and 25 said no. 36 groups thought 500 farm families could be secured at \$15 per year to start such an association; 31 groups thought they couldn't. The salary of a doctor to serve in rural communities was estimated at \$2,500 per year up to \$10,000. Most every group qualified its answer by saying that they really had no idea and were only guessing.

The majority of the groups answering thought the Farm Bureau should be the agency to institute and develop such an association for a health program; 38 groups thought the county organization should take the initiative in promoting hospital insurance along with this project.

I gathered from reading these questionnaires that most groups felt they had very little information on the subject. They are interested in a better medical care program for rural people.

People are becoming more conscious of health. I believe that people will concern themselves with this problem. I attended a meeting at Mich. State College at which Dr. Taylor of the State Farm Foundation was asking representatives of rural people how the Farm Foundation could better assist in the promotion of a better health program for rural people. Every group present asked for one thing and that was "more education and information on the subject". I am sure that gradually this information will become available.

I believe this is a topic that should and will be studied more than one month a year.

Peninsula 1, Grand Traverse—16. Electricity for the use of the farmer in his home to do more and better work was the theme of our May discussion. "How soon after the war will electric service be extended to more of our farm operators?"

Grelckville, Leelanau—5. Discussed taxation and social security for rural people at our May meeting.

Elbridge, Oceana—15. Members of our group resolved to attend local school meetings.

Newfield, Oceana—50. Group favors taking 1c per pound on butterfat from checks between June 1st and 15th to advertise milk products.

South Carlton, Barry—12. Decided to divide the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals up among members for study. Reports to be made at the next meeting.

East Leonidas, St. Joseph—19. Our group decided that the following are important in planning for the future of the farmer: Fairer prices, more liberal health and educational facilities and adequate legislation in favor of agriculture.

Lima-Scio, Washtenaw—30. Entered the Webster Group, Dr. Otto Engleke of the health department of Washtenaw County spoke.

with the Bangs disease program was discussed.

Northeast Montcalm, Montcalm—15. Gordon Blank of Alma College spoke on post war agriculture.

West Grant, Oceana. All milk producers present favored the forming of a milk producers association in order to have a more standard price for milk.

Addison, Oakland—20. Our group definitely not in favor of agricultural subsidies.

Grant, Grand Traverse—23. Motion made that the Farm Bureau take some action on getting the money refunded for the price of cream which was cut during the last month without OPA authority.

Hamburg-Genoa, Livingston—27. During our discussion on international peace we decided that the churches should play an active part in reforming the people of Europe, also that every citizen should consider his responsibility in the serious problem of peace-making.

New groups formed during the month are: Saginaw county—Birch Run and Maple Grove; Huron—North Huron and Mud Creek; Washtenaw—West Augusta and East Augusta; Oakland—Lyon township; Newaygo—Aetna; Oceana—Randall & Elbridge; Cass—Porter, Volinia and Howard; Mecosta—Barrystown; Shiawassee—West Shiawassee, Bennington and Owasco township; Wexford—Hollister and Greenwood; Macomb—Richmond No. 1. Total of 20 new groups for the month of May, 1945.

Hobart, Wexford—12. Group discussed the book, "The Road to Serfdom."

Riverton, Mason—45. Motion made that we write the county board of directors stating that we favor the county securing some equipment to be used in fighting rural fires.

Pine River, St. Clair—22. Motion made that the meeting start promptly and that a member be fined 25c if he is late.

Amber, Mason—18. Group favors compulsory military training as a means of preparedness for war.

Filer, Manistee—10. Motion made that the subject, "Electrification of Rural Districts" be added to the County Farm Bureau program for next year. Problems and advantages of a Farm Bureau co-op discussed.

Dallas No. 1, Clinton—12. Group decided that if the farmers of this county have a surplus they should reduce production rather than dump the excess on foreign markets.

Bingham, Huron. During the discussion on peace proposals our group decided that our national policies should not be aimed at making the U. S. economically self-sufficient and that our children should be taught to understand the other nations and their problems.

Southeast Rose, Oakland—13. We had quite a discussion on the test and price of milk and are planning a public meeting for all neighboring farmers to meet and see what can be done about the milk situation.

Pleasanton, Manistee—20. The matter of getting a veterinary to locate in this county was discussed again.

JUNIOR FARM BUREAU ACTIVITIES

By MISS GLENNA LOOMAN
State Publicity Chairman, Juniors
Holland R-2, Michigan

Your state publicity chairman extends a hand to Berrien county for the quality and quantity of news the groups have been responsible for. Special credit should be given Frances Foster, Bob Pangel, Agnes Broderick and Jeanne Bittner. Next, should we publish some of those who haven't been doing so well?

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEETING
Herb Fierke, state president, has set Saturday, June 23, for the next state council meeting. He postponed a meeting in May because he felt that everyone would be so busy that the presidents couldn't attend a state meeting. It is of great importance that each Junior president be present, together with the state board.

LIVINGSTON—L. D. Dickerson, regional director for district 6, says his district held a week end camp, May 12-13 at Camp Copneconic, near Flint. About 65 young people attended. The camp was planned and operated by the campers, including preparation of the meals. Guests included the Hennink family and Mary Farrell, state camp chairman.

Washtenaw—Members of the newly organized Monroe County Junior Farm Bureau were guests of Washtenaw at our April 24th meeting. Recreation and group singing were led by Dorothy Brown and Mildred Burmeister. Plans were discussed for a district overnight camp. Jim Bliss of the Michigan Elevator Exchange spoke. May 8 we had a roller skating party at Ann Arbor for members and guests.

Oakland—Louise and Grace Minard were hostesses at the last business meetings May 9 at the Minard home. A county meeting will be held May 23 at Highland.

St. Joseph—We are in the news again with our scrap drive. Eloise Burgess, publicity chairman, said, "Besides serving a good cause, the scrap drive is creating interest in the Junior Farm Bureau." So far, more than 126,000 lbs. of salvage has been collected. It is worth \$675. In addition to performing a patriotic service, we plan to use \$700 to enable 70 to 80 boys between 10 and 14 to attend Camp Wakshma, June 17 to 24. St. Joseph Juniors are publishing a paper, the middle of each month, for members at home and in the services.

Central Berrien—Other groups will be interested in hearing about the "Good Will" meeting for all interested in the Niles area. People from all walks of life gathered at the Presbyterian church at Niles Sunday, May 6, to discuss current world problems. We served a meal to about 40 that evening at 50c a plate. 150 members and friends gathered at

Long Lake club house the evening of May 4 for dancing.

North Ottawa—Juniors had a meet-April 18 with their parents as guests. Program included a one-act comedy, group singing, and a talk by Mr. Hennink. The boys baseball team, the "Cheritres" have played and won 7 games. The girls have a team, too.

Kalamazoo—Mr. E. Webber, head of the Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce, spoke at a recent meeting on the work of the Kalamazoo County Planning Committee. The last USO farm night meeting at Kalamazoo featured a farm bank, and ended with an auction of the pets brought by the farmers.

Mason—Officers of the Juniors met May 11 at Ludington to discuss the camp program which Mason and Muskegon counties are sponsoring the first two weeks in July at Dunes Camp near Montague. Campers will be city boys with no farm experience from Muskegon. FreeSoil community Juniors announced a party to be held June 2 at FreeSoil town hall in the heart of South Custer group, which did such good work in the last paper drive.

NO RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CHANGES

Many Michigan farm folks were greatly concerned as to what the legislature might do during its 1945 session regarding changes in rural school district organization or control. For about 2 1/2 years a public education study-commission appointed by the Governor had been considering educational problems and had included in its report some recommendations regarding school district organization. Just what was being proposed was not generally understood and many exaggerated and distorted ideas were broadcast among farm folks in some sections of the state.

As had been predicted by many students of the problem, the legislature did very little in connection with this controversial situation. The house of representatives approved bills providing for the establishment in any county so desired a county school district reorganization committee to study and recommend as to school district reorganization. While this bill was under consideration in the house, it was amended to insure rural control of each such county study committee. The house also passed a bill relative to the type of school districts which might be set up in accordance with the recommendations of such study committee. This program emphasized a maximum degree of home rule and self-determination. Both bills died in the senate committee on education.

Calhoun to Acquaint Old & New Members
Calhoun County Farm Bureau is planning "Fun Night" programs for three parts of the county to better acquaint the old and new members. A leadership training meeting has been held for Community Farm Bureau officers. A county picnic is planned for the last of July. Six of 15 Community Farm Bureaus are participating in the group hospitalization program.

Classified Ads

Classified advertisements are cash with order at the following rates:
4 cents per word for one edition. Ads to appear in two or more editions take the rate of 3 cents per word per edition.

WOOL GROWERS
ATTENTION—WOOL GROWERS, WE handle wool for the C.C.C. and offer you other marketing services. All wool graded at our warehouse, 606 N. Mechanic St., Jackson, Michigan. Ceiling prices guaranteed. Michigan Co-operative Wool Marketing Association. (1-15-55b)

ELECTRIC MOTORS
NEW ELECTRIC MOTORS FOR Farmers. 1/20 HP. to 7 1/2 HP. Mail orders to Gulf Service Station, Lawrence, Mich. (4-121-17p)

ORCHARD and BEEKEEPER SUPPLIES
GRAFTING WAXES AND FRUIT packages, honey containers and Root Quality Bee supplies. M. T. Beck Co., Successors to M. H. Hunt & Son, 810 North Cedar St., Box 7, Lansing 1, Michigan. (1-61-30b)

POULTRY SUPPLIES
POULTRY MEDICATION AT PRICES farmers can afford: 100-1 Disinfectant for brooder house and general disinfectant for pens makes 4 gallons of spray. Pheno tablets for drinking water, 450 tablets \$1.50. Proto-4 aids in prevention of coccidiosis, quart \$1.00, medicates 64 gallons of drinking water. Available at Farm Bureau Services co-ops and stores, at hatcheries and feed stores. Mail orders postpaid. Holland Laboratories, Lugers Road, Holland, Mich. (4-15-55b)

MISCELLANEOUS
WANTED—OUT OF DATE PHONO-graph Records. Good prices will be paid for hundreds of out of date records of these brands: Commodore, Paramount, Vocalion, Brunswick, Okeh, Columbia (black label), Victor (only in 23,000 to 38,900 series). Records must be in excellent playing condition. Communicate at once with N. M. Jacobs, 155-01 90th Ave., Suite 4/8, Jamaica 2, New York. (6-11)

State Mutual Pays

... actual value on grade stock and on registered stock. Up to \$400. on horses, \$250. on cattle, \$80. on hogs and \$40. on sheep. Actual market value on poultry and other fowl. This liberal protection warrants your investigation.

STATE MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.
702 Church Street — Flint 3, Michigan
W. V. Burras, President H. K. Fisk, Secretary

MODERN WATER SOFTENER NOW AVAILABLE

Until you've enjoyed really clean, soft water, you can't know what you are missing.

The good looking unit here is the famous Do-All Valv-O-Matic softener. It will deliver near zero softness water for many years, as well as removing objectionable quantities of iron from water at the same time.

Requires only regular salt regeneration. No special handling or chemicals. The exclusive "candy ball" inserted in the Valv-O-Matic time saving valve takes the work and guess out of regenerating. Pour in salt charge, replace lid, set valve, and softener returns itself to service moment regeneration is complete.

For information on hardness of your water supply, send pint sample in clean, sealed container, labelled with your name, address to Farm Bureau Services Machinery Dept 728 East Shiawassee, Lansing 4, Mich. Write and attach letter telling how many in family and whether you wish to soften hot and cold water, or hot only.

BUY THIS SOFTENER AT FARM BUREAU STORES & CO-OPS

GOOD RURAL LINE NEIGHBORS KEEP CALLS SHORT



BEFORE the war, Michigan Bell was making real progress in reducing the number of telephones per rural line. But because there are so many more rural folks with telephones today, and because war has prevented expansion of the system, most lines are serving more families.

Even so, if everyone will "share the line" with typical American friendliness and consideration, you and all your telephone neighbors will enjoy better service. These three simple rules will go a long way in the right direction:

- 1 Please keep all calls short.
- 2 Please do not listen in or interrupt when the line is in use.
- 3 Please be sure to hang up your receiver. One receiver off the hook can tie up a whole line.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

Buy Farm Bureau Seeds.

SOLVAY
Agricultural Limestone
MEAL
Produced in Michigan
Available at Your Nearest Dealer
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Detroit 17, Michigan

NW Action Committeemen Meet With Powell

Farm Bureau legislative action committeemen of the Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Missaukee, Oshtemo, and Westford County Farm Bureaus of northwestern Michigan, are attending a series of meetings June 4 to 8 to hear Stanley Powell, legislative representative of the Michigan Farm Bureau. He is discussing the Farm Bureau program in the legislature, and how local groups have a part in making legislation.

New Community Farm Bureaus in Sanilac county are Townline and Elmer, organized in April.

Predjudices Will Not Aid A Lasting Peace

By MRS. EDITH M. WAGAR
Briar Hill Farm, Carleton, Monroe Co.

I wonder how many have read or heard the reports of 18 representatives of the press who were sent to Europe at the request of General Eisenhower to see the cruelties practiced by Nazis in the concentration camps?

Their reports tell us how inhuman the human race can become. We don't like to hear these stories nor to read them. But if there are such conditions in the world, we should know it and should take steps to wipe them out forever. But, will we help do it? We blame Hitler and his cabinet, but he certainly had many willing followers or else such wholesale murder could never have been carried out. We cannot visualize an entire nation void of moral law, but such has been the case. Those who would not subscribe to Nazi doctrine were killed, or sent to labor camps to work until death overtook them.



Mrs. WAGAR

We know that it is the intent of those chosen to participate in the San Francisco conference that those things shall not happen again. We feel certain that international agreements will be made to that effect. It is our prayer that those pacts may be as lasting as the countries which made them. But laws and pacts do not operate by themselves. All concerned must accept them, the nations and the people living in them.

We are prone to think laws are made for the other fellow. Right now is a good time to check on ourselves. Are we applying the Golden Rule to our hope for an understanding with Russia? Are we biased in our thinking about England? Do we admit to ourselves and better yet to others who seem fearful of America "holding the bag" that only by the entry of Russia into the war was England able to survive? That only for the heroic determination of both England and Russia was our own country spared an enemy invasion?

To be sure, America supplied food, munitions, and most of all millions of

our very best young men. But here we need no restoration of land and buildings. We have no debris to clean up. We have no millions of homeless civilians to care for and rebuild their lives, for nerves, hearts and hopes must be re-established, as well as homes, schools, churches, and factories. Europe is a ruined continent.

We have had none of that to endure. We have experienced instead a conversion of civilian production into production for war, with work for everyone at wages that have never been surpassed. Now we are gradually returning to more normal operations.

As citizens of a great democracy we should cultivate democracy in its greatest sense. We should squelch our prejudices against other nations and peoples. We should school ourselves to be tolerant toward other religious beliefs. Hitler has shown us a horrid example of intolerance. Millions of Jews were killed or sent into labor camps to face worse than death. Thousands of Catholics, Protestants, and dedicated their lives to the betterment of all humanity were subjected to indescribable cruelties.

Have you ever noticed that those who are prejudiced toward other religious beliefs are often those who subscribe to no particular religious faith, or if they do it's a matter of acceptance rather than practice?

I have maintained that if children never heard creeds, races, colors, nations, and politics spoken of in a derogatory way, our prejudices and intolerance would soon die out. How much better this old world would be if we would only spend as much time and energy to define and defend the good fruits of unity among people as we do in condemning their differences!

Before we express our opinions too harshly on matters of this sort, let's mentally put ourselves in the other fellow's place and judge accordingly. In fact, who are we that we feel that we can act as judge and jury on others who look at things a little differently than we do?

I believe that those who disobey moral law as laid down by the great Judge of all should meet the punishment they deserve, and that those who ignore civil law should pay the penalty that goes with the offense. But let's reserve our individual judgment of others lest we find ourselves abetting a cause that may prove a menace to real democracy.

EFFECTIVE CO-OPS DRAW ATTACKS, WICKARD SAYS

Farmer co-operatives in the postwar period will continue to play an important role in assembling, processing and marketing of farm products, in the purchasing of farm supplies, and in providing necessary farm services, Secretary of Agriculture Wickard declares in his 1944 report to the President.

"Co-operatives are a means to an end and not an end in themselves," Wickard declares. "They exist for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of production and marketing, and consequently of bringing greater returns and a higher standard of living to farm people."

Turning to the attack on co-operatives, Wickard says the reason for it is the growing strength of the co-operative movement during recent years. There can be no ground for the criticism that co-operatives have an unfair advantage over private enterprise because they do not pay taxes on patronage dividends, Wickard states.

"There can be no ground for this criticism in the true co-operative, because the true co-operative is not organized to make profits and therefore, cannot be subject to a profits tax. Patronage refunds based on the amount of business done with the co-operative cannot be put in the same class as profits made from an investment in a corporation."

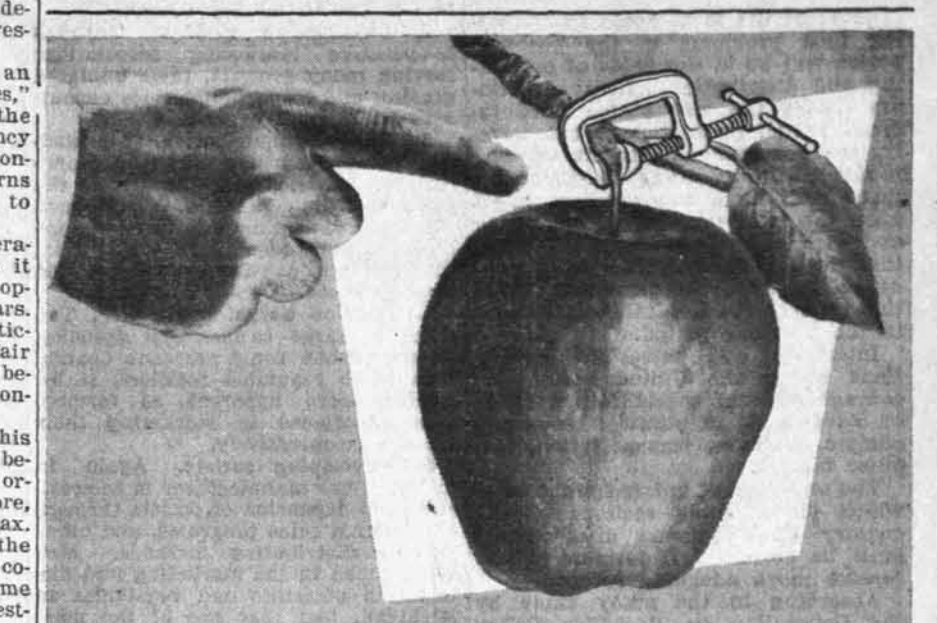
Hogs Need Pasture For Greater Gains

W. N. McMillen, research specialist in animal husbandry at Michigan State college, says that good pasture lowers the cost of pork production by reducing the requirements for protein supplements and lessening the dangers of disease.

He recommends alfalfa, clover, rape, sweet clover, sudan grass, and blue grass for hog pastures. But he stresses that pasture furnishes only a maintenance ration for hogs, and needs

to be supplemented with grain and some protein supplement. Early in the spring brood sows and their litters should be placed on pasture that is free from round worm infestation. One fourth acre of good pasture is about right for each sow and litter, assuring that plenty of forage will be available throughout the grazing season. For shoats, one acre of pasture is needed for each 15 to 20 head.

The average range of hearing embraces sounds with vibrations of from 20 to 20,000 per second.



HERE'S HOW I'LL GET EXTRA MONEY BY USING STAFAST* Pre-Harvest Spray!

Growers Choose Stafast because it is a proven hormone spray that holds apples or pears on the trees longer, cuts down wind-fall losses, and steps up grades. Growers know that the pre-harvest Stafast application pays for itself many times over because they have seen more of their money fruit go to market. The simple reason is that the fruit is given more of that important extra time on the trees to get deeper color and increased size!

Yes, You may grow a good crop of legumes without inoculation . . . BUT

it actually costs you \$10 per acre in nitrogen taken from the soil. INOCULATE your clovers, alfalfa, and soybeans, and you'll take this nitrogen free from the air.

USE UNI-CULTURE
the only 3-1-1 Inoculant for field crops, and save money!
Sold by FARM BUREAU Seed Dealers
KALO INOCULANT CO. Quincy, Illinois

ORCHARD BRAND SPRAYS & DUSTS

And Another Thing that means real money to fruit growers is the fact that Stafast helps to spread out picking time, thus easing the labor problem; . . . practically eliminates "spot picking."

Here's Why Stafast gives high efficiency—it's high in active ingredients . . . it's the hormone spray with naphthalene acetic acid plus! So be market wise . . . be ready with Stafast. Order it from your dealer today.

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UNICO DUSTS and INSECTICIDES

Farm Bureau insecticides and dusts are available at your nearest Farm Bureau dealers. Don't wait — NOW is the time to get them.

COPPER SULPHATE MONO-HYDRATED COPPER SULPHATE INSOLUBLE COPPER DUSTS

COPPER LIME SULPHUR DUSTS ROTENONE-LETHANE DUST (Equivalent to 3% Rotenone)

We Can Also Supply Combinations of These Dusts
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Buy at Farm Bureau Stores and Co-op Ass'ns

GRAVEL ROAD MAINTENANCE

with **SOLVAY CALCIUM CHLORIDE**

PAYS DIVIDENDS
Gravel roads treated with Solvay Calcium Chloride require less maintenance. They stay smooth longer and need less resurfacing because, being dustless, the surface doesn't blow away. You get a better road at no extra cost!

Send today for FREE booklet, "Calcium Chloride Surface Consolidated Roads." Address Dept. 74-6.

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UNICO Roof Coatings
Black Asphalt Coating
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Farm Bureau Roll Roofing
Farm Bureau Asphalt Shingles

Unico Black Asphalt Roof Coating can be used on all types of roofing materials. Also on fence posts and other items needing a good weather protecting paint. Unico Wagon and Implement Paints will protect your property against weather and rust.

Buy at Farm Bureau Stores and Co-op Ass'ns

TO MEMBERS OF THE Michigan Live Stock Exchange

The Michigan Live Stock Exchange is a farmer owned and controlled organization operating as a selling agency on the Detroit market.

For the past 25 years the Exchange has also operated in addition to the Detroit office a service office at Hudson, for the purpose of securing feeder cattle and lambs for its members and others on a commission basis; also, for financing operations and rendering other services that were beneficial to the feeder.

Like everything else, conditions have changed, especially in the past 2 or 3 years, to the extent many of these services are no longer needed. Therefore, the Board of Directors have eliminated the Hudson office and have transferred all activities to the Detroit office. Anyone needing these services may apply direct to:

Michigan Live Stock Exchange
George J. Boutell, Manager

SALESMEN: Cattle, Jim McCrum and Ted Barrett; Sheep and Calves, Charley Culver and "Jake" Bollman; Hogs, "Mac" McMillen.

DETROIT STOCK YARDS DETROIT

Michigan live stock is fed for market on a ration of grain grown on Michigan farms. This ration consists of corn, oats, wheat, barley and soybean meal, also alfalfa hay. Fattening live stock on the above mentioned ration guarantees the consumer choice quality meat products at all times.

Market information over the stations of the Michigan Radio Network at 12:15 p. m., Monday through Friday

GOVERNOR SIGNS 3 FARM MEASURES

Gov. Kelly on May 29 signed three legislative acts of interest to Michigan farmers. They were part of the Michigan Farm Bureau program in the 1945 legislature.

1—Gov. Kelly approved the act creating a state commission of agriculture to assure a continuing administration of the state dept. of agriculture apart from party politics. The commission will consist of five members who will serve 5 year terms. They will employ a director to administer the work of the commissioner. The present commissioner of agriculture, Charles Fyfe, will continue as director until 1947.

2—The governor approved the anti-filled milk act, which prohibits the sale of any milk, cream, or skimmed milk product to which has been added any vegetable oil or fat.

3—Approved, too, was the act to create a permanent state agricultural marketing council of eight persons to be nominated by farm organizations. Their task will be to allocate and administer funds appropriated by the legislature for advertising of Michigan farm products.

Blames Gov't Policies For Food Shortages

The same policies which are responsible for the shortage of meat, particularly pork, also have brought about the scarcity of poultry and the impending famine in eggs, said the Grand Rapids Press.

Last summer, said the Press, when government food authorities were doubtful about the size of the feed crop, they not only called for a cut in hog production, but also asked hatcheries to close. As late as December the war food administration fearing surpluses this year, was urging the culling of laying flocks, which now are smaller than a year ago. These policies have contributed to the shortages.

Farmers have a simple formula for increasing the supply of poultry and eggs. All they need, they say, are fair prices, enough feed and labor and a minimum of new government rules.

The University of Cracow in Poland is the second oldest in central eastern Europe.

ADVOCATES FARM APPRAISAL SYSTEM

Advocating a federally sponsored farm appraisal system from which anyone at any time and at a reasonable cost could get on a voluntary basis an appraisal of a farm which he wished to buy or sell, Wm. T. Myers, dean of the Cornell College of Agriculture, told the National Agricultural Credit Committee meeting in Chicago recently, that such an appraisal system should be available if for no other reason than its educational value. "It would tend to increase stability of land prices in good times and in bad and it would help to get across the idea that ordinarily the value of a farm is determined largely by its expected earning power over a series of years.

"A federal appraisal system would make available to individual buyers some of the knowledge which lenders with an appraisal system have available to themselves," said Dean Myers. For example, it would be exceedingly useful in settling estates where a farm boy wants to buy out the other heirs and wants a fair, unbiased, inexpensive appraisal."

Live Stock Exch. Combines Secretary & Sales Offices

The Michigan Live Stock Exchange has announced the consolidation of the office of secretary-treasurer at Hudson with the sales office of the Exchange at the Detroit stockyards.

John O'Malley, secretary for many years, has retired from that work and has been succeeded by George Winstler of Mt. Pleasant. George Winstler, manager of the Detroit sales office, has been named as assistant secretary.

Wedding is Surprise At Farm Bureau Meet

Miss Arizona Neeley daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Neeley of Ray, Ind., and Edward Etheridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Etheridge of Waterloo, Ind., were married at the Community Farm Bureau meeting in April at the home of Clarence Smith of California township, Branch county. The wedding was a surprise feature of the meeting.

Clear Weather

Since 1888 the weather for Michigan has produced a yearly average of 126 clear days, 100 partly cloudy, and 139 cloudy.

Building Enduring Agricultural Methods

Nine Proven Methods For Increasing Demand For Farm Produce

YOU as producers and we as distributors know that the day is fast approaching when instead of markets seeking food, food will be seeking markets. That fact poses an important problem for every individual whose livelihood depends upon the production and distribution of the food America eats.

Fortunately, agriculture is in a stronger position today to face the postwar changes than it was after the first World War. Farmers have been handling their wartime gains more wisely, profiting from the mistakes of the past. The "consolidated balance sheet" of America's six million farmers shows healthy assets—assets which have increased many billions of dollars since 1920.

To preserve these gains and build for the future, individual farmers are examining their investments in land, livestock, farm equipment and buildings. They are studying better ways of farm management, production practices and marketing—for they know that each of these will play an important role in shaping their future.

In the final accounting, each season's success or failure will be influenced in the future, as it has been in the past, by the producer's ability to find markets. Therefore agricultural leaders are giving much thought to the ways and means that will contribute to better sales of farm products.

As distributors who, for 85 years, have devoted our time and energies to serving producers and consumers by constantly improving the marketing of food, we share your profound interest in achieving the best possible postwar conditions for agriculture. Long experience—yours and ours—has shown that certain fundamental principles must be followed so that housewives throughout the nation will want to buy, and be able to buy, the products of the nation's farms.

Actually, these principles constitute a set of objectives toward which progressive growers and distributors have been working. Among the most important of these are:

1. Emphasizing production of the varieties and quality consumers prefer.
2. Reducing waste and spoilage on the farm, in transportation, in the warehouses, in the stores and in the homes.
3. Improving grading, packaging and refrigeration methods.
4. Developing the chemurgic possibilities of the plants and feeds which do not now go into human consumption but may have a farm value when utilized for animal feeds and industrial uses.
5. Improving transportation, warehouse and marketing facilities.
6. Adopting better display, advertising and merchandising practices.
7. Streamlining distribution, eliminating unnecessary in-between handling costs and routing produce as directly as possible from the farm to the housewife's kitchen.
8. Increasing and improving facilities to supply growers with marketing information.
9. Improving and increasing, where needed, canning and processing plants.

In co-operation with the U. S. Departments of Agriculture, Land Grant Colleges, the State Departments of Agriculture and the Agricultural Extension Service in the various states, A&P and other progressive distributors and growers are preparing now for the years ahead through projects designed to bring agriculture closer to these objectives.

The teamwork and co-operation so clearly evidenced in these mutual projects is already paying dividends to producers and to consumers as well. As this principle of teamwork is even more widely applied, more and more producers and distributors will be better able to accomplish our mutual job of feeding America better today, and at the same time helping build a sound future for all agriculture.

ATLANTIC COMMISSION COMPANY, Inc.
Affiliate of
THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC TEA COMPANY

Post-War Marketing Topic for June

Background Material for Discussion in June by Our Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

By EVERETT YOUNG
Membership & Education

Some of the most acute and pressing food problems in the post-war period will be in the fields of marketing and distribution. Because farmers during the war period have increased their production so extensively, the post-war adjustment of food production to post-war consumer demand will have the greatest effect upon the total problem of marketing and distribution. Most farmers feel that the agricultural problem is most dependent upon the degree to which this country reaches full employment in the post-war period.

Interstate and intrastate restrictions within the United States discourage regional specialization, based on advantages in physical resources, climate, location, transportation, and other factors.

The situation of unfair freight rates which places some sections of the country at an undue disadvantage must be corrected if farmers are to receive more adequate returns.

According to the study made by the Committee on Post-War Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, there are two major factors in addition to that of full employment, which will improve the domestic market for farm production. One is a more complete educational program to promote good nutrition. The other, according to the Land-Grant Study, is a measure which will promote food consumption by low-income families through such means as the food stamp plan.

The marketing of agricultural commodities in Michigan entails problems quite largely kindred in nature. For lack of space, only three of the main sources of farm income will be considered in this article: (1) fruits and vegetables, (2) livestock, (3) milk, and other dairy products.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKETING

Because war-time demand has greatly influenced consumer taste and has to some degree changed the buying habits of the city housewife, the problem of adjusting marketing distribution of food is considered by the specialists to be one to which a great deal of study must be given.

Some have been very enthusiastic about the post-war possibilities of dehydrating fruits and vegetables and other foods, but others who have been forced to fare on this diet in the armed forces now long for a tender beefsteak, served with vegetables, fresh out of a cold storage locker plant or the small home deep-freeze unit. The matter of packaged food for distribution is one which is receiving a great deal of attention these days. The degree to which the co-operative marketing associations develop will have a great influence upon affecting a more efficient marketing and distribution at the lowest possible cost to the consumer, with the greatest possible income going to the farmer. Co-operative marketing organizations have many functions of benefit to both the farmer and the consumer:

1. Stabilizing production. When the growers themselves assume speculative risks through their own co-operative marketing associations

they are more liable to voluntarily stabilize their production according to the known market demand.

2. Standardize quality. Through co-operative marketing associations serving many growers, their unbiased grading and inspection service encourages high quality produce.

3. Planning distribution. It is fundamental of industry that the manufacturer either provides or directs the method of distribution of his product. The farmer, as a manufacturer of food through his co-operative may direct the method of distribution of his farm produce.

4. Provide bargaining power. The value of large co-operative agencies, whose volume could warrant dealing with large reputable retailers, is becoming more apparent as farmers gain experience in marketing their produce co-operatively.

5. Developing outlets. Again in industry, the manufacturer is interested in the expansion of outlets through advertising, sales programs, and other modern distribution methods. Men experienced in the marketing and distribution of fruits and vegetables in Michigan, feel that one of the most needed programs in our state is a more complete program of organization which would give Michigan growers a co-ordinated agency which could handle such matters of developing outlets through advertising and sales programs, in addition to other promotional programs.

QUESTIONS

Fruit and Vegetable Marketing:

1. Should the functions of a co-operative marketing agency be limited to merely processing and packaging of the product? Could the association promote a new outlets and advertise its members' produce?

2. Why will dehydration of foods disappear after this war is over?

LIVESTOCK MARKETING PROBLEMS

As has been true after other major wars, definite changes in production, marketing, processing, and distribution of many food products may take place after World War II.

It is expected that after World War II more development along these lines will take place in the production, processing and distribution fields.

(a) Increased sales of meats on a quality or grade basis.

(b) greater sales of meat in frozen and packaged form.

(c) greater sales of graded meats in fresh form.

(d) increased sales of meat through self-service stores.

(e) wider use of locker plants and home freezers by consumers.

(f) increased sales of quickly prepared meat products such as precooked hams, boneless steaks, roasts and frozen drawn poultry.

From the packers' and processors' standpoint such changes point to the further decentralization in the location of processing plants—nearer to sources of supply.

The establishment of new, small independent processors operating combination slaughtering, packing and freezing plants with modern equipment and lower operating costs should put them in position to compete satisfactorily with large packers. To meet the changed consumer demands, processors will need to perform a

more complete job of grading, trimming, fabrication of wholesale cuts, boxing, freezing, packaging, pre-cooking and developing prepared meat products. Better utilization of trimmings, fat, bones, and other products at the processing plant rather than at a large number of retail stores.

On account of overhead and reduced volume it is difficult for an association handling only livestock to survive. Is it not feasible for co-op associations handling other commodities to enter the livestock marketing field as an added service to their patrons?

QUESTIONS

Livestock Marketing:

1. Is the trend toward decentralization of livestock marketing good for the livestock producer?

2. Through what channels is most of your livestock marketed in your community? What improvements could be made locally?

DAIRY MARKETING

In dairying, the great shift to whole milk outlets and the opening up of formerly closed markets may have an adverse effect when trends swing in the opposite direction. When subsidy programs now operating for some products are discontinued, it will mean sharply lower prices to producers or higher prices to consumers.

The market for milk, one of the least expanded of our major markets, will be active in the demobilization period. Consumption of our most highly valued dairy products—fluid milk and cream—should be encouraged by:

1. More distribution through low-cost channels.

2. Adoption of flexible price systems in as many markets as possible in order to keep prices adjusted to basic conditions in the industry and among consumers.

3. Maintenance of quality standards, with emphasis on the practical, inexpensive methods well known to milk sanitarians.

4. School lunch programs and, if there is much unemployment, the return to prewar arrangements for "free" milk.

Emphasis should be placed on the production of dried skim milk powder. Not only will much be exported in the demobilization period, but if supplies are available, domestic demand will also increase. Many problems have persisted for the last twenty years, and new ones have come into existence. The most important are:

1. Overlapping of country routes results in excessive hauling, smaller loads, and higher marketing costs.

2. A portion of farmers and distributors may employ price cutting and other competitive practices which start price wars and demoralize the milk markets—reducing prices to farmers to low levels.

3. Wide variation in prices paid farmers by distributors for milk for same use.

4. Where records of distributors are not audited, farmers are not certain that they are paid on basis of actual test and use of milk.

5. Practice of dividing routes and the lack of a system of trading customers among distributors result in high distribution costs.

6. Absence of any association among distributors to reduce wasteful duplications and unfair trade practices.

7. Excessive emphasis placed upon selling milk and dairy products rather than upon education of consumers on the value of these foods.

8. Many wasteful competitive practices increase distribution costs, such as: unsound credit; use of solicitors; excessive service; duplications in plants, equipment, routes, administration.

QUESTIONS

Dairy Products:

1. Should delivery on one street by six competing milk wagons be continued? How about the several milk haulers who may drive by your farm each morning?

2. Do farmers have any responsibility in financing an advertising program which would "sell" the city housewife on the advantages of dairy products over substitutes?

USE SAFE METHODS AND AVOID STRAINS

For working in the garden and lifting weights, these suggestions are made by national authorities on farm safety measures:

For low tasks such as picking beans, tomatoes, strawberries, squat down with your back straight. Do any job you can by squatting-and-straightening, rather than by bending.

For lifting heavy weights, bend your knees, not your back. Squat down with back straight and pick up the weight by straightening your leg and thigh muscles. This way, the strong muscles of your back and thighs take the strain of lifting. Caution: Bending over and picking up a heavy weight by straightening the back may cause back strain or serious muscular injury.

"A heavy load is a lazy load." Two trips with lighter loads may be quicker and easier than one back-breaking load. Whenever possible, use teamwork in lifting heavy loads. Learn your particular strength. Do not lift weights and objects too heavy for you.

Keep Tires in Repair

The office of defense transportation says that practically all available truck tires, especially the larger sizes, are now running on wheels. Summer heat and increased wear urge extra care for tires in the coming months. They should be inspected often for cuts, bruises and tread wear and repaired as needed. Speed and overloading drastically reduce the life of tires. The supply for replacement is less than anticipated needs.

Profit Suggestions For 1945 Pig Crop

Creep feed the pigs. It's not too late to put the creep in for late spring pigs. They will do better, and there won't be so many 10 to 25-pound runts that aren't profitable.

Give the mother sow a ration adequate in protein, minerals and vitamins. A self-feeder for the sow and litter is a good way to save labor and be sure they have adequate feed. Sows

that wean their pigs too late to re-breeding for reasonably early fall farrow should be fattened, sold, and replaced with gilts. Castrate the boar pigs early.

Guard against cholera, as an out-

break is possible this year. Double treating or vaccinating pigs 4 to 10 weeks old is cheap insurance.

Provide good pastures. They reduce the cost of pork production, cut down on amount of protein supple-

ment needed, and lower the disease risk.

For additional information, see your county agricultural agent for a copy of Extension Bulletin 234, "Swine Production in Michigan."

So You Want More Economic Security!



Worthwhile results seldom are achieved by waiting for other people to do the job you want done. There is no substitute for the effort you can make.

How You Can Help Yourself

Farmers' purchases of feeds have built and paid for other people's feed plants. Do you want to pay for more? Or do you want to pay for and share in the savings made by a farmer-owned feed manufacturing plant? If so, just insist upon Farm Bureau feeds.

Milkmaker, for your dairy herd. This 24% or 34% protein concentrate carries in addition to various quality proteins, Vitamin D (8,000,000 units per ton), also supplies cobalt, copper and iron in the manganese sulphate we use. You can buy no feed that does more to maintain the health of your herd.

Farm Bureau poultry feeds containing Mermaker offer you the finest balanced rations on the market. Fortified Mermade Balancer, 37% concentrate, carries 600 lbs. of Mermaker and 500 lbs. of meat scraps per ton. It has vitamins in such

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