



MICHIGAN FARM NEWS



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EDITORIAL

Postwar Farm Price Support

The calendar years 1947 and 1948 are the two year period in which Congress shall support basic farm prices at 90% of parity under the Steagall amendment. President Truman established the time by declaring hostilities at an end December 31, 1946.

Congress enacted the Steagall amendment at the request of the Farm Bureau and farm co-operatives to protect farmers from a postwar price crash before they have had time to adjust from producing for war to producing for peace.

At present, farm prices in general are above parity. But it will be different. Congress wants to carry out the price support pledge. At the same time it wants to carry out the intent of the Steagall amendment, which is to bring production into balance with peace time needs.

The Department of Agriculture has made some recommendations to Congress. The Farm Bureau agrees with Secretary Anderson that the price support program will necessarily call for compliance with production quotas. The Farm Bureau will oppose a proposal from the Department that the price support program be accomplished by support at half of parity, or allowing farm prices to seek their lowest level and make up the difference to the farmer in subsidies.

Bait

A mouse takes the bait in the trap. But a man with convictions is hard to trap.

Some feed companies made a lot of money during the war, much of it by selling only low protein feeds. They are beginning to use some of that money now. Good salesmen are calling upon farmers to persuade them that their feed and their program is better than the Farm Bureau's co-operative feed manufacturing and distribution service.

That's where conviction comes in. Farmers have made the Farm Bureau feed manufacturing service one of the largest in the state. They are convinced that it is good, profitable business and security for them to own co-operative feed mills and distribution facilities. They know that they can produce the best of feeds at competitive prices. The savings made by the program belong to the patrons and they get them as patronage dividends. The salesmen will have to beat that before they can shake many loose from the Farm Bureau.

8 MORE DEALERS START ON PATRONS RELATIONS PLAN

Eight more Farm Bureau Services dealers adopted the patrons relations program for their farmers in January. There are now 24 dealers on the program. Another 42 dealers should be operating on the plan by Aug. 31.

The eight dealers are: Kingsley Co-operative Ass'n, Miller Hardware of Elsie, Cheboygan Co-operative Company, Schimke Farm Supply at Onkama, Bear Lake Hardware Company, Boyne City Co-operative Company, Ravenha Co-operative Company.

All of the savings or margins of the co-operative Farm Bureau Services, Inc., belong to the patrons. The patrons relations program is a system of record for (1) enabling Services to pay patronage dividends direct to farmers, patrons, and (2) to give farmer patrons around each dealer an organization for advising with the dealer and Farm Bureau Services on Farm Bureau supplies.

After patrons and dealer agree to the plan, the dealer keeps records on the purchases of Farm Bureau commodities by each patron. Services furnishes the record forms. The first \$10 of patronage dividend due a patron is paid to him in interest bearing Farm Bureau Services debentures. The 11th dollar earned buys him a share of Services common voting stock. All further patronage dividends are paid in debentures or preferred stock. At present there are several thousand holders of Services common stock, including 153 farmers co-operatives. A number of the co-ops have installed the patrons relations system.

For each patrons relations group there is an advisory committee of farmers. About every three months all the patrons are invited to a meeting with representatives of Farm Bureau Services. The advisory committee is in charge of the program.

During January patrons meetings were held at McCords and Adrian. Seeds and feeds were discussed. At Ellsworth and Bellaire feed and petroleum products were discussed.

Indiana Farm Bureau Direct Primary

Indiana Farm Bureau is backing a direct primary bill in the legislature to abolish the party convention method of nominating persons for state offices and for U. S. Senate. The Bureau said 99% of Indiana's public offices are nominated by direct primary. Indiana is one of four states using the political convention system for state offices. The Farm Bureau opposed the convention law when it was enacted some years ago.

Statistics Emphasize Hospital Plan Growth

As members of hospital and medical service program, the Farm Bureau discussion groups will be interested in a progress outline of the Michigan Hospital Medical Service.

Michigan Hospital Service The Blue Cross Hospital Plan Persons Enrolled	
1939	74,236
1941	823,053
1943	1,061,882
1945	1,272,024
1946	1,167,365
Michigan Medical Service the Blue Cross Surgical Plan Persons Enrolled	
1940	114,627
1941	407,052
1943	571,015
1945	858,235
1946	839,158

KENT CO. HONORS FARM AGENT FOR 25 YEARS SERVICE

As a token of its appreciation for more than 25 years of service to the county's farmers, the Kent County Farm Bureau awarded a plaque to Keats K. Vining, county agricultural agent, at a membership campaign meeting early in January.

President Seymour Hesche, made the presentation. In accepting the award, Vining is recalling that the Kent County Farm Bureau hired him as farm agent in 1920, told of his pleasant associations in working with the group and that his contacts with the members had made him appreciate what the Farm Bureau can do for the farmer.

Keith A. Tanner, organization director of the Michigan Farm Bureau, complimented the Kent County Farm Bureau on its growth and told Vining that he was glad to see the county unit honor him. It was a "grand gesture to a grand man for a good job done for the farmers".

Berrien County Women Plan Rural-Urban Meet

Plans for a rural-urban conference to bring farm and city women together for an interchange of ideas were laid during the early part of January by the Women's Activities group of the Berrien County Farm Bureau.

The date for the conference, has tentatively been set for February 26 at the Hinchemen Methodist church.

This is the first such meeting ever called by the Farm Bureau women of Berrien County.

With reasonable usage, the life of a farm tractor is approximately ten years.

Farm Groups Serve Michigan Smorgasbord to Press Ass'n



A feature of the 79th annual convention of the Michigan Press Ass'n at Lansing Jan. 25 was the "smorgasbord" served by the Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Co-operatives, preceding the "All Michigan Dinner" of the newspaper group. Shown serving George W. Campbell (right) of the Owosso Argus-Press and newly elected president of the MPA, are Charles Figy, state commissioner of agriculture, and Miss Astrid Loken of Oslo, Norway. Miss Loken, dressed in Norwegian costume, is a student in the Michigan State College school of home economics,

which prepared and served the tasty appetizers provided by Michigan farm co-operatives. The smorgasbord was a part of the Farm Co-op Month program to make the public better acquainted with our farm co-operatives. The Press Ass'n meeting presented an opportunity to invite the attention and good will of hundreds of newspapermen. The smorgasbord items and the co-ops which contributed them: FRUITS—Cherries and apples, Cherry Growers, Inc.; spiced fruit, Coloma Canning Co.; maraschino cherries, Oceana Fruit

Growers, Inc. TOMATO JUICE, Bay Co-operative Canneries; APPLE JUICE, Oceana Fruit Growers, Inc. LUNCHEON MEATS—Detroit Packing Company. POULTRY, Hamilton Farm Bureau. FISH and CHEESE, Rock Co-operative and Copper Country Co-operative Enterprises. BUTTER, Midwest Producers Creameries, Inc. CREAM—Lansing Dairy Company. EGGS, Caledonia Farmers Elevator Co., and Hamilton Farm Bureau. POTATO CHIPS, Michigan Potato Growers Exchange. BAKED BEANS, Michigan Elevator Exchange.

SERVICES STOCK PAYMENTS EXCEED HALF MILLION

In the last few months Farm Bureau Services, Inc., has paid out to farmer co-operatives and individual farmer patrons and stockholders a total of \$567,759.72 in stock and cash, according to Lee S. Monroe, manager of the accounting division.

Patronage dividends paid amounted to \$346,117.32; interest on stock outstanding \$38,862.40. Stock retired \$182,780. Mr. Monroe said the payments were made as follows:

- \$241,390.17 in payment of patronage dividends upon Services wholesale business for year ending August 31, 1945. Payment made in Services Debentures bearing 3% interest. Mailed to co-operative ass'n and individual stockholders in late December, 1946.
- \$104,727.15 in Farm Bureau Services branches patronage dividends for year ending August 31, 1944. Paid in Services AAA stock and some common stock. Mailed in December.
- \$42,940 mailed in checks to holders of AAA stock issued September 1, 1937, for purpose of retiring that stock. It has earned 4% interest each year.

\$38,862.40 in checks mailed to holders of AA stock and AAA stock up to August 31, 1946. The payment represents a half year of interest on the AA stock (called Aug. 31, 1946) and a full year on the AAA.

All outstanding AA preferred stock was called for retirement as of Aug. 31, 1946. Holders settled for cash or new stock at their option as follows: cash \$26,350; for Series A 4% Debentures, \$113,490.

Services is now working on the patronage dividend distribution to Farm Bureau Services branch patrons for the year ending Aug. 31, 1945.

1947 ROLL CALL LOOKS GOOD ON FIRST REPORTS

The Michigan Farm Bureau is out to increase its membership from 46,000 to 51,500 or more families in 1947. More workers are in the field per county than in any campaign in our history. Every membership must be renewed and thousands more added to the rolls.

Thirty-nine counties conducted their membership campaigns during January. Ten completed the job in December. Kalamazoo, Branch, Washenaw and Berrien go to work in February. Berrien is last, starting Feb. 17. A few reports:

Bay county reported \$68 after four days against a goal of 967; Barry's report meeting showed \$58 against a 1213 goal; Oceana's first check-up revealed 600 on a goal of 737; Saginaw has 1400 for the first report. Sanilac's goal is 1832; the membership committee smiles but has made no report. Sanilac has surprised twice with whopping gains. Hillsdale, Lenawee, Calhoun, Mason counties report they are near the goals set. A report by counties will be published in the April or May editions.

The time is long past when the welfare of the farm family can be safeguarded through neighborhood and community co-operation alone.

Brody Announces for Board of Agriculture



Clark L. Brody, executive secretary of the Michigan Farm Bureau, announced January 31 that he will be a candidate for renomination to the state board of agriculture at the Republican state convention at Grand Rapids, February 8. The board is the governing body for Michigan State College. Mr. Brody has been a member of the board since 1922 and will complete his fourth six year term Dec. 31, 1947. During those years the board has had the responsibility of providing teaching staff, class room facilities and housing for a student body that has grown from around 3,000 to 13,000 or more.

MUST COMBAT CENTRALIZATION, POWELL SAYS

A state constitutional convention, a state property tax and a consolidation of the state's school districts into one unit are some of the alternatives being suggested to take the state out of its financial embarrassment caused by the passage of the amendments two and three last November. Stanley M. Powell, director of public affairs for the Michigan Farm Bureau, told members of the Van Buren County Farm Bureau at their annual convention in Paw Paw during January. In reminding the group of the growing urban influence within Michigan, Mr. Powell pointed out that only 28 per cent of the population now lives outside municipalities. An alert and organized Farm Bureau is necessary to protect the interests of farmers, he said. We must combat a tendency in the legislature toward centralization that would strip school districts and townships of their prerogatives.

Earl Morehouse of Deatur was re-elected president of the Van Buren County Farm Bureau. Paul Graham was elected vice-president.

The 16 year old National Council of Farmer Co-operatives now federates for representative purposes 79 regional farm marketing and purchasing co-ops, representing 4,500 separately incorporated local associations serving 2,300,000 farmer patrons.

Properly constructed self-feeders prevent feed wastage.

F.B. MILLING CO. TAKING OWNERSHIP OF FEED MILL

Farm Bureau Services, Inc., has announced that the Farm Bureau Milling Company is in the process of acquiring ownership of the big Chapin Feed mill which it has leased for the past four years.

The Milling Company is owned by the Farm Bureau Services, Inc., of Michigan, the Indiana Farm Bureau Co-operative Company, the Illinois Farm Supply Company and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Supply Company.

The Milling Company manufactures lines of the Farm Bureau dairy, poultry and hog feeds. The company has improved the manufacturing facilities at the plant considerably during the lease period and is continuing to do so. The plant has annual manufacturing capacity of 75,000 to 100,000 tons of feed, operating 40 hours a week. It is possible to increase that to 125,000 to 150,000 tons by operating to capacity with two shifts.

MAFC'S CO-OP MONTH CARRIES FIGHT TO NTEA

The Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Co-operatives at its annual meeting at Lansing, January 31 decided to expand its tax and accounting advisory service to co-operatives, and to combat to the fullest extent the anti-co-op campaign being waged by the National Tax Equality Ass'n.

The Ass'n endorsed a Co-op Month program for January whereby the public was made better acquainted with the farm co-operatives through meetings of business men from towns and cities with farmers interested in co-operatives. For the general public local co-operatives published Ass'n advertisements regarding farm co-ops, and there were radio programs regarding the place of farm co-ops in business.

These officers and directors were elected to represent 10 state exchanges and 170 local co-operatives: Chairman, W. E. Phillips, Mich. Elevator Exchange; vice-chairman, Fred Hibst, Mich. Potato Growers Exch.; State Exchange directors: R. D. Ward, Farm Bureau Services; A. J. Rogers, Cherry Growers, Inc.; Mrs. Edith Wagner, Detroit Packing Co.; C. N. Hinman, Farm Bureau Fruit Products Co.; Frank Oberst, Michigan Live Stock Exchange; Howard Simmons, Michigan Milk Producers; Carl E. Buskirk, Michigan Farm Bureau; Leo Kulki, Northland Co-op Federation.

Directors representing local co-ops: Kenneth Miller, Coloma Fruit Exch.; Andrew Lohman, Hamilton Farm Bureau; Tom Berghouse, Falmouth Co-op Ass'n; C. S. Coffman, Coldwater Dairy Co.; George Brooks, St. Johns Co-op Co.; Roman Booms, Ruth Farmers Elevator.

Clark L. Brody continues as executive secretary and J. F. Yaeger as ass'tive secretary and J. F. Yaeger as ass'tive secretary. The MAFC operates as a dept. of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

No farm organization in recent years has grown so much in membership and influence as the Farm Bureau.

Contractors to Start On Fertilizer Plant

Contract Calls for Completion of the Job by December 1; Hope to have All Concrete Work Done Before the Spring Break-up

The board of directors of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., at a special meeting held at Lansing, January 14, let the general contract for the building of a fertilizer manufacturing plant near Saginaw. It will have a manufacturing capacity of 35,000 to 45,000 tons capacity per year. Terms call for completion of the plant on or before December 1, 1947.

The general contract for the building was awarded to Granger Brothers of Lansing. Jarvis Engineering Works of Lansing will erect the steel. Toltz, King & Day of St. Paul, Minn., are the architects and engineers.

The general contractor proposes to have the concrete foundations, basement, and other concrete work completed before the spring break-up. Some 500 tons of structural steel will be required for the building. It will be put up during the summer. The roofing and side-walls will also be of steel, similar in appearance to steel roofing, but covered with a brown asphalt and composition protective covering which is fused into the steel.

The steel and cement block structure will be 123 by 327 feet. It will be one story high with the exception of a 23 by 123 section across the center of the building. That section will be four stories high and will house the elevators, mixers and conveyor machinery. The plant will contain 21 storage bins, each capable of holding 800 tons of fertilizer for curing. Fertilizer will move on power belts. The plant will be equipped completely with machinery to reduce operating costs.

Bureau Asks Repeal of Tax Amendment

Repeal of the sales tax diversion amendment at the April election was recommended to Governor Sigler and the legislature by the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors at Lansing, January 30.

Such action, said the Farm Bureau, is called for by a deficit in state finances estimated at \$83,000,000, and brought about by the adoption of the sales tax diversion and soldiers' bonus amendments last November.

The Farm Bureau opposed both amendments at that time. It said their adoption invaded the responsibilities of the legislature and could be expected to create an unmanageable situation for all units of government.

If the legislature will place an amendment to repeal the sales tax diversion before the people in April, it may be possible to restore to the legislature its proper responsibility for deciding at each session how the available financial resources of the state shall be distributed to units of government.

Many people have supposed that the sales tax diversion amendment provided only for distribution to local governments and schools of one-third of the sales tax revenue. But, said the Farm Bureau directors, the language of the amendment sets aside for schools amounts that total 44% of all sales tax revenue. Add to that the diversion to local governments, and 77% of sales tax revenues are marked for schools and local governments. That leaves 23% available to the state for meeting all its responsibilities.

The Farm Bureau membership has been asked to write representatives and senators in favor of placing an amendment on the April ballot for repeal of the sales tax diversion amendment.

Compulsory Pasteurization—Legislation calling for compulsory pasteurization of all milk and milk products sold or offered for sale in Michigan has been introduced. The 1945 legislature established a program of local option whereby the supervisors may vote to require pasteurization in the county or any part of it. Sponsors of the new legislation say it would protect the public health and encourage the tourist and resort business. If the bill is considered favorably by the legislature the Michigan Farm Bureau directors have urged that exemption be provided milk and dairy products sold or furnished by producers to regular or seasonal employees.

Livestock Trucking—The House judiciary committee is considering a Michigan Humane Society measure regarding transportation of livestock by truck. It would require each class of stock to be partitioned separately except that veal calves and sheep might be carried in the same compartment. It would require individual tying or partitioning of bulls, hogs, or unruly cattle. It forbids transporting inert freight in a compartment with livestock. All racks and partitions shall be free of sharp projections. Decks shall be high enough to clear animals standing on the floor. Cleated inclines or ramps must be provided for loading and unloading. Detailed provisions are specified for bedding. From June 15 to September 15 the load shall be covered to protect it from the sun and from November 15 to March 31 to protect it from bad weather.

Driver's License—The House committee of the whole is considering a bill to raise the minimum age for securing a driver's license from 14 to 17 years. There is a provision that a person 14, 15, or 16 years of age might secure a restricted operators or chauffeurs license "upon proper showing of extenuating circumstances or special reasons or need." The decision would be made by the commissioner of the Michigan state police, although it is expected that in actual operation each person issuing drivers' licenses would be empowered to pass on the individual applications.

Restricted licenses might contain "conditions and restrictions applicable to the license, the type of special mechanical control devices required in a motor vehicle operated by him, and any route, area, time, or other condition which the commissioner deems necessary to assure the safe operation of a vehicle by the licensee and under which the licensee may operate a motor vehicle." All operator's licenses now in force for persons 14 to 17 years of age would be revoked if and when the proposed bill becomes a law. The minimum age for drivers of school buses would be raised from 18 to 21 years.

Our Rural Phone Plan Helps 40,000 Farmers

Since December 1941 the Michigan Bell Telephone Company has connected 40,000 additional rural phones under a plan developed by the Michigan Farm Bureau, State Grange and Michigan State College, co-operating as the Michigan Rural Communications Committee. The plan first reduced the cost of getting rural telephone service by providing for 3/10 of a mile of free construction, later increased to one-half mile per customer. Additional construction required per customer was paid for at the rate of 45¢ per tenth-mile. That amount was added to the phone bill for 5 years. New customers coming on the line reduced and perhaps eliminated that charge. Since the half-mile of free construction per customer became effective Feb. 1, 1946 very few group extensions have called for a monthly construction charge. More than 24,000 rural customers were connected in 1946 when the Company resumed building halted by the war. About 13,000 applications for service are on hand. The Company expects to connect another 20,000 rural customers in 1947. The larger independent telephone companies are extending rural phone service on a somewhat similar plan.

HIRAM and MARTHA
 BY H. S. CLARK
Valentine
 Oh, Helpmeet on the road of life; Companion of my days;
 The sharer of my weal and woe, for you my heart displays
 The best that in it is, of love and joy and fond appeal;
 And every noble sentiment a simple heart can feel.
 For you as in the days of old when first we spoke our love
 My heart still beats the quick tattoo that you are worthy of.
 The best that's in me, you inspired; the honest things, and fine,
 And it is time I told you so again, My Valentine.

As, Mother of my little ones, so many years ago,
 You shared with me the heavenly thrill that only parents know.
 Together we have lived along, the bad times with the good
 And always we have tried to keep the charge of parenthood
 Together we have shared what came, the bitter with the sweet
 And now that they are grown and gone, that phase would seem complete.
 But still the memory of it lives in your dear heart and mine,
 And still my love is all for you; for you, My Valentine.

The uphill days of life are past. The quiet years have come,
 And you are still my light-of-love, the goddess of my home.
 The flame no longer burns so hot. Ambition flickers low.
 But still together we can share love's glorious afterglow.
 As hand in hand and heart to heart we greet each rising day
 Knowing our love is deep and true and shall not pass away.
 Then kiss me, Sweetheart of my soul, and let our arms entwine
 Still be the Darling of my heart; still be My Valentine.

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

Community Farm Bureau Activities
 By MRS. MARJORIE KARKER
 Membership Relations and Education

In these summary reports of community Farm Bureau meetings the name of the group, the county and number in attendance are given in that order.

Holton, Muskegon—20. Group voted to give their secretary \$5.00 for a Christmas gift in appreciation of his good work.

Kent City, Kent. The Community Farm Bureau of this area held a shower for Mr. and Mrs. Lina Wilder, driver of the Farm Bureau oil and gas truck, whose home and entire contents were destroyed by fire just before Christmas. Many useful gifts were presented.

Shiawassee-Vernon, Shiawassee—24. Mr. Roger Forch of Hancock Elevator outlined plans for advertising during "Co-op Month."

Mapleview, Allegan—19. A letter was prepared to be sent to the County Road Commission asking that Allegan County roads be named and marked for safety reasons.

Central, Missaukee—18. Group is interested in obtaining the services of the Lake City Fire Department, when necessary, and appointed Ben Sheatzenhelm to investigate this matter.

Progressive, Emmet—13. Is not in favor of price support for potatoes but favors the allotment acreage plan of control.

Geneva-Warren, Midland. Fred Reimer and I attended the meeting of this group and I don't know when I have enjoyed an evening more. I was impressed by the willingness on the part of members to accept responsibility so that their group would be successful. It was nice to meet the members. I hope to see them again.

Bloomer Township, Montcalm—12. It was voted that the luxury tax be retained for the time being at least. That a sharp cut be made in the number of people on the government pay roll.

Unadilla, Livingston—21. It was suggested that there be more research on new outlets for farm surpluses. They felt that colleges and universities should be given more money to carry on this research work.

Northwest, Livingston—23. Won \$5.00 for selling the most tickets to the Livingston County Farm Bureau annual meeting and voted to send this prize money to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smalley for their work in Africa.

Elmer, Sanilac—28. Mr. Whitley, County Road Engineer, discussed road problems. Lester Appels showed movies on "vacations". These were particularly enjoyed inasmuch as the members had been snowbound for several days.

Sunnyside, Wexford—15. Secretary was instructed to send a letter to Governor Kim Sigler commending him on his stand on Farm Bureau and Co-operatives.

South Oneida, Eaton—12. Members are to be notified by telephone of Community Farm Bureau meetings. (Good idea).

Bellevue, Eaton—46. Report and pictures of national AFBF convention in San Francisco and the trip to and from the convention was given by Walter Mapes.

Archie, Grand Traverse—19. In discussing whether or not farm products should be better advertised this group, being cherry growers, felt that the nutritional value of cherries should be advertised more through attractive posters in food stores.

Aetna No. 1, Mecosta—14. They felt that the cost of advertising farm commodities should be compulsory for all growers so that all who benefit by the advertising would be helping to finance it.

Cedar No. 1, Osceola—10. Letters were sent to their Congressmen protesting against the proposed elimination of the R.E.A.

A. & B., Macomb—13. Voted to go on record as a group in favor of outlawing "Communism" and to prevent any member of that party from holding any office in our national, state and local government.

County Line, Leelanau—22. The question of putting income taxes for farmers on a three-year basis, instead of annual, was debated.

Results of the discussion were not tabulated.

Bingham, Huron—16. Has decided to discuss one of the farm problems listed in the book, "Report of Michigan Major Agricultural Problems" published by Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Michigan Planning Commission, along with the state discussion topic each month.

Mulberry, Lenawee—100. Were hosts to the Blissfield, East Java and Southland groups at a business and social meeting. A panel discussion led by Lloyd Reusink of Adrian was conducted on the subject of Farm Bureau activities.

Seville, Gratiot—14. Discussion on the possibility of a Farm Bureau store in Gratiot County was held. Group went on record as favoring the proposal.

Tamarac, Barry—14. The conclusion after discussing "Advertising of Farm Produce" was that advertising should be done by Farm Bureau as a means to bring to the public eye the fact that farmers have an organization that is working.

Southwest Maple Grove, Barry—7. It was decided to protest the poor service they have been getting from the company furnishing electric power. They voted to do this by having each family of the group make a protest when paying their next electric bill.

Central Hillsdale, Hillsdale—13. After discussing the matter rather thoroughly the gathering decided to ask the business men of Hillsdale to become members of the Farm Bureau.

Garfield, Newaygo—22. Group favored the inclusion of dairy products in all school lunches. (Does this mean hot school lunches?)

South Salem, Washtenaw—46. Members have written their Congressmen protesting the sugar allotment and have asked for action by Congress in getting more sugar. This method of procedure was agreed upon after holding a discussion on this subject at their December meeting.

Townline, Livingston—13. Agreed that taxes should be taken off food, and income tax removed from lower incomes. L. D. Dickerson showed color motion pictures taken on his trip to AFBF convention at San Francisco.

BAKING SCHOOL SPONSORED BY VAN BUREN WOMEN

Highlighting a baking school sponsored by the Van Buren Farm Bureau Women's group in co-operation with the home demonstration agent at Paw Paw, was the step by step demonstration of the mixing, kneading and shaping of home-baked bread.

"Since hot breads are great favorites and can be served in such a variety of ways to keep thrifty meals interesting, wise homemakers serve them often," said Miss Helen V. Rodgers, mid-western representative of the Wheat Flour Institute of Chicago.

While demonstrating a quick variety of the popular cinnamon roll and coffee cakes with many tasty toppings, Miss Rodgers said, "Inasmuch as sugar is still scarce, semi-sweet coffee cakes and rolls help satisfy the sweet tooth and yet go easy on the sugar."

Mermash poultry feeds, 16, 18, and 20% protein are back to normal, according to Bob Addy of the Farm Bureau Services feed dept'. The feed shortages during the war years made it impossible to make them as they were before the war.

Now, said Bob, we have available the quality proteins which carry the essential amino-acids and vitamins. Mermashes made from MVP (Mermaker and Vita-Pak) concentrates are the good buy for poultrymen.

Mermashes are being made with whole fish meal and fish solubles, liver meal and dried whey. They contain so much of vitamins A, B-complex, D, and G, said Mr. Addy, that there is a pickup for flocks and an abundance to maintain health with heavy production. Mermash is being stocked by Farm Bureau dealers, or farmers may buy the MVP concentrate and have their own grain mixed with it to get an all-grain Mermash that

carries the vital factors necessary for health and production and yet takes only a moderate cash outlay.

Pres. Buskirk Addresses Produce Growers' Banquet

Farmer co-operatives, which lead the way toward better trade practices through the introduction of competition, will some day enable farmers to "write their own insurance program against crop surpluses," Carl E. Buskirk, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, told Hampton township growers of produce for the Bay Co-operative Canneries, Inc., of Essexville, at a Victory Banquet the early part of January.

President Buskirk, who was a member of the five-man national advisory council which recommended to the U. S. Department of Agriculture the 1947 acreage allotment program for the potato support program, explained that speculators on the east coast and in the far western states took advantage of the old potato support program.

Cases of fruit were awarded to outstanding growers for the concern by Manager Arthur K'burg.

Use Farm Bureau Feeds.

For your family's health build a CONCRETE SEPTIC TANK

A concrete septic tank makes it possible to have the benefits of running water and modern plumbing in safety. . . . disposes of all household and human wastes . . . prevents the contamination of drinking and cooking water by germs that may cause typhoid, dysentery and other ills.

Write for our free booklet, "Concrete Structures for Farm Water Supply and Sewage Disposal." It gives complete construction details. Also explains how to build cisterns and well cuttings to protect your water supply.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
 W-2, Olds Tower, Lansing, Mich.

ELECT YAEGER TO NATIONAL BOARDS

Michigan Farm Bureau men figured in the election of directors for several national farm co-operatives at Chicago early in January.

Clark L. Brody, executive secretary of the Michigan Farm Bureau, retired as director and president of the United Co-operatives, Inc. J. F. Yeager, asst. executive secretary of the MFB, was elected to the board. H. S. Agner, manager of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Co-operative, was elected president.

At the annual meeting of the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives, Mr. Yeager was elected a director, or of the state co-operative councils section of the national board of directors. Mr. Yeager represents the Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Co-operatives in that capacity.

Mr. Brody retired as chairman of the Council's National Agr'l Transportation committee for farm co-operatives. He served in that capacity throughout the war.

Mr. Brody continues as a director and vice-president of the National Farm Machinery Co-operative. Mr. Yeager is a director of the National Co-operatives, Inc., a purchasing and manufacturing organization interested in electrical equipment, milking machines, distributed by Farm Bureau Services in Michigan.

NEW! A WAY TO PREVENT ROT, SPOILAGE AND SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION IN HAY, GRAIN, FODDER AND GROUND FEED

SECURITY COMPOUND
 FOR THE PRESERVATION OF FARM CROPS

Security Compound has been tested for over 10 years—it's approved by both practical farmers and agricultural fuel experts.

You need no longer worry about your feed being too damp—Security Compound will give you a tremendous heavy in judging completeness of curing.

Its special equipment is needed and you can do your processing by your old methods. It's absolutely harmless to stock or poultry.

COSTS YOU LESS THAN 30c A TON

STATE MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE

... protects more than 40,000 Michigan farm families from loss. STATE MUTUAL has become Michigan's largest farm mutual fire insurance company by providing protection "tailor-made" to your needs. Reputation for reliable, common-sense insurance has built STATE MUTUAL to its top position of confidence.

702 Church St., Flint 3, Mich.
 H. K. FISK, Secretary

STATE MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.
 W. V. BURRAS, President

BABY CHICKS
 'Think of Tomorrow! Order Chicks Today'

Remember, the chicks you buy now will be your next year's layers. The kind you buy determines your next year's profits! You can't expect them to lay more eggs than they have been bred to produce. We have the best. Every chick we sell is from an egg produced on our own farm! Phone or write for price list today. Don't wait!

CRAWFORD POULTRY FARM
 Phone 37029 Kalamazoo R-9, Michigan

Record Set by State Seed Inspectors

The volume of work handled by the State Department of Agriculture seed laboratory in 1946 set a new all-time record.

A total of 12,747 samples of seed were tested in the laboratory. This represents 6,929 samples sent in for test from farmers and seedsmen throughout the state and 1,725 field seed samples collected by inspectors, and 4,093 samples of vegetable seeds.

As a result of the samples collected by inspectors, 1,292 lots of seed were seized by the state. The seed testing service is free to any Michigan resident.

the farm books. This should enable the average farmer to save from \$1 to \$1.25 on his 1946 income tax.

AGENTS WANTED

The Insurance Department of the Michigan State Farm Bureau has many openings for agents to represent the State Farm Insurance Companies in Michigan. We would appreciate hearing from any of our Michigan Farm News readers if they are interested in talking the proposition over with one of our managers. It would be very helpful to us if any of our readers would suggest the names of likely agent prospects in their nearby cities and towns. The remuneration is good. This is a particularly good time to start. Address your inquiry to

INSURANCE DEPT. - MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU
 221 North Cedar St. P. O. Box 960 Lansing, Michigan

ENJOY PURE, SOFT WATER and Save Money, Too!

THE GREATEST COST of hard water is in the many extra hours of drudgery, the vexation and irritation of lustreless hair, the depressing effect of dull, dingy fabrics. But here are some of the economic costs for a family of four:

Cost in Soap.....	a year	\$21.53
Cost in Fabrics.....		34.17
Cost in Plumbing & Fuel.....		14.50

Add to that the increased cost in auto radiators, 20% replacement of kitchen utensils, cost of maintaining cisterns, repairs to water tanks and pipe lines, etc.—and the total exceeds \$100 a year.

The BALL-O-MATIC water conditioner with the "Do All" mineral will deliver near zero softness water and remove objectionable quantities of iron at the same time. See your Farm Bureau dealer about free tests of water for hardness and for full information about the Do-All Ball-O-Matic Water Softener.

Distributed By
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc.
 Machinery & Electrical Dept.
 221 N. Cedar Street
 Lansing, Michigan

Manufactured by
REYNOLDS-SHAFFER COMPANY
 Detroit, Michigan

The good looking unit here is the famous Do-All Ball-O-Matic Softener.

Membership Dues Are Farm Expenses

The internal revenue department has ruled that membership fees in farm organizations are legitimate expenses of the farm business.

The dues may thus be entered on the farm books. This should enable the average farmer to save from \$1 to \$1.25 on his 1946 income tax.

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.

VETERINARY REMEDIES

TEST FOR MASTITIS (GARGET). Use either the quick blotter test (50 blotters for \$1.00), or the Brom-Thymol test solution (complete with test tubes \$1.25). Treat internally by mouth with sulfanilamide tablets (100 60-grain tablets \$4.00), or inject infected quarters with either sulfanilamide suspension in oil, penicillin solution or Tyrothricin emulsion. Write H. F. Link, 1456 East Michigan, Lansing, Mich. Has the largest veterinary department in the state. (1-17-47b)

VETERINARY INSTRUMENTS—HYPODERMIC Syringes with needles and under infusion tubes; dose syringes, mouth spreaders, balling guns, milking tubes, dilators, test plugs and splitters, dehorning trocars with capula, emasculators. Write for prices. H. F. Link, Pharmacist, 1456 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Mich. (1-17-47b)

PHENOTHAZINE—BEST DRENCH grade, 96c per pound. 1 or 100 lbs. Write for 150 lb. drum price. H. F. Link, 1456 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Mich. (1-17-47b)

WANTED—FARM TO RENT. 200 OR 250 acres with good equipment and everything furnished. Orlando Bugbee, Mason R-1, Box 137, Michigan. (2-11p)

LIVE STOCK

HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES, SIRE son of Wisconsin Admiral Burke Lad, Gold Medal, 25-2 yr. 4 mo. daughters average 17,160 lbs. milk, 618 lbs. fat, dams by our Gold Medal sire, Pabst Sir Belcade Dewdrop, 19-2 yr. daughters average 443 lbs. fat 2X. Farmer prices if sold young. Special price to 4-H club members. Also, Berkshire sows. Rinkland Farms, John A. Rinkle & Sons, Warren, Michigan. (1-31-49p)

MILKING SHORTHORN BREEDERS: For your next herd bull select a son of our nationally famous sire, Ingleside Royal Juniper. For the past four years our herd has won the coveted Premier Breeder's Banner at the Michigan State Fair. Stanley M. Powell, Ingleside Farm, Ionia R-1, Michigan. (12-31-45b)

Registered Red Poll Cattle. Butter, beef and beauty. Our herd has won more firsts and champions than any other herd at the state show the last four years. 95% of the calves sired by a Red Poll Bull from any cows will be red and hornless. We usually have breeding stock for sale. Popular Stock Farm, Phil Hopkins, Homer, Michigan. (2-31-49p)

BABY CHICKS, REASONABLY PRICED with livability guaranteed. White Rocks, White Leghorns, Legoreas, Reds, Red Rocks. All stocks blood tested. Write for catalogue and prices. Caledonia Farmers Elevator Hatchery, Caledonia, Michigan. (2-21-49b)

Meadowbrook Farms Hatchery R.O.P. bloodline chicks. Wing banded R.O.P. cockerles heading breeding pens. U. S. approved. U. S. Standard tested. Six standard breeds. Serving central and eastern Michigan from Charlotte, Mich. Meadowbrook Farms chick manual free. Meadowbrook Farms Hatchery, Box MN-5, Zeeland, Michigan. (2-21-49p)

FRUIT PACKAGES

USED FRUIT PACKAGES, BUSHEL Baskets, Berry Crates, Field and Apple Boxes, Plant Flats, and a large variety of other boxes and barrels. Write your needs for samples and prices. Harry Marcus, Benton Harbor R-3, Michigan. (12-61-36p)

MAPLE SYRUP SUPPLIES

ESSENTIAL MAPLE SYRUP MAKING and marketing equipment and supplies, including felt filter bags of cleansing, thermometers, hydrometers, tin and glass containers, fancy labels, sap spouts, etc. Orders being booked for new King evaporators for delivery for 1948 syrup season. We urge producers to order all supplies early to be assured of delivery in time for spring use. For prices and information, write Sugar Bush Supplies Company, Box 1107, Lansing 4, Michigan. (1-17-49b)

MAPLE SYRUP LABELS

SPECIAL MAPLE SYRUP LABEL for glass and tin containers. Attractive all-over illustration in six colors of sugar bush in operation. Also, new this year, a six color label illustrating a maple leaf in autumn colors. Place for your farm name. We print that for you. Our labels are designed to draw attention to and sell your syrup. Label for can covers three sides of can. Carries recipes, too. For samples and prices of all labels and information, write Sugar Bush Supplies Company, Box 1107, Lansing 4, Michigan. (1-17-49b)

WOOL GROWERS

Attention, Wool Growers—send your wool to us and you are guaranteed the best and highest price. We are purchasing wool for the government. Year around wool marketing service and prompt settlement made. Michigan Co-operative Wool Marketing Association, 506 N. Mechanic St., Jackson, Michigan. Phone 3-4246. (2-31-44b)

FARMERS! THIS IS NO TIME TO STAND ALONE

You want the right answers to all important questions before every farmer today: What is going to happen to farm prices, and to farming as a business in the next few years? The next ten years? How can I steady myself for storms that may come? What can I do to continue agriculture as a strong, prosperous business? How can I do something that will help?

Join 1,000,000 FARMERS in the FARM BUREAU

THE FARM BUREAU is fighting your battle for fair prices, good laws, and a square deal for farmers. Men of ability represent our membership to Congress, to the state legislatures, to business, industry and labor. Farm Bureau members are informed and organized to act on legislation and other proposals that will affect their business!

Farm Bureau got better farm prices (parity). It helped get postwar farm price support for two years after peace is declared. Our platform is that farmers, labor and business should go up and down the price ladder together. That is a square deal for agriculture.

Farm Bureau Services, Inc., assures members high quality seeds, feeds, fertilizers, machinery, etc. Its job is to help farmers increase farm income. A large fertilizer manufacturing plant is to be built. All savings belong to the patrons.

The Farm Bureau has advanced and protected members' interest many times in the past. You can depend upon it in the years ahead!

YOU CAN HELP YOURSELF now and in the years to come by being a member of the Farm Bureau. Take an active part in it. Continue your membership. Nearly 1,000,000 families are members in 46 states. More than 45,000 farmers are members in Michigan. Family membership is \$5 per year.

YOUR COUNTY FARM BUREAU
 Take Part in Roll Call for Membership

EMMET PRODUCES CHAMPION SEED POTATO GROWERS

J. D. Robinson and his son, Paul, of Pellston, both members of the Emmet County Farm Bureau, have won again the title of Michigan's champion certified potato seed growers.

The Robinsons, who have placed high in state potato contests for years, produced 721 bushels of Chippewa potatoes per acre to win the 1946 state crown.

In 1945, when Paul was in the army, J. D. Robinson won the title with 615-bushel average.

Selection of the champion was announced by H. C. Moore, Michigan State College potato specialist.

Lenawee Farm Bureau To Publish Newspaper

Lenawee County Farm Bureau began publication during January of a monthly newspaper with Lewis Ruebink as the editor. Harland Sell will be the chairman of the board of directors' publication committee.

Other members of the committee are Robert Tucker, Harold Goetz, Ivan Hunt and Leo Wagner.

Farmers Must Act to Protect Their Income

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

The daily papers of late show that farmers must be on the alert or we shall lose much that we have gained. We read headlines "50 cent butter by summer." To the dairy farmer that means he cannot feed last year's crop to produce milk for 50 cent butter without taking a tremendous loss.

I have heard several town people rejoice over the prospect and say they hoped all food prices would be lowered to the same extent. It is our job to convince such people that the quickest way to nose into another depression is to reduce the farmer's buying power so that it is out of balance with that of other groups.

There is a surplus of potatoes. I don't know what the solution of the problem will be. The government is trying to get rid of them without too great a loss to producers. It's too bad to have a surplus of a crop like potatoes when a new crop from another section of the country is about ready for market. It has a tremendous effect on the price of both the old and the new crop.

I believe farmers must aim to market only A No. 1 potatoes commanding the best possible price, and find ways and means to work off the lower grades.

This is National Onion Week. There's a reason. There is a great surplus of onions needing promotion for a market. Most of these surpluses cannot be carried over for any length of time, so it means find ways and means to induce people to consume more.

It seldom helps our cause to let the consuming public know that we have a surplus of anything, for even the minimum price would be too high. I don't believe we gain very much asking them to help us out. We have to work out our own salvation by serving it to them in some other ways.

That's why I think farmer co-operatives must have research dep'ts to develop new ways of disposing of our crops other than as food. In times like this the public begins to think it has farmers on the run, and that we'll soon take any old price we are offered. This is no time for us to waver or wobble. Farmers must stick closer than brothers.

I have a letter from a Farm Bureau member asking what she can do with little eggs that are hard to sell. I

suggested that she grade all eggs very carefully and aim to maintain the good market she has for the large ones. Use small eggs for the family and offer the remainder for a price she would be willing to pay if buying. But under no circumstances allow the small eggs to kill the price for those of higher grade. Many times farm women can create and cater to a special market for eggs and poultry. It is best to do so if possible rather than depend upon local stores for a market.

I have tried to stress in this article that farmers are in the midst of troublesome times. It is fool hardy to expect any other group to bring steady prices to our door. If we are to have steady prices we must keep together and work toward that goal.

We must support our co-operatives. We must bring other farmers along with us. We cannot do our best when so many stand outside looking on. We must take time to support our organization when it calls upon us to back it up in state and national legislation. Let's think more about our own business these days and let other folks work out their own troubles.

I am sure that our country will carry on even if Georgia has several governors, and however Hank Greenberg comes out, or even if Bilbo gets back into the U. S. Senate. I am not so sure that the farmers will get their fair share of the country's income unless farmers themselves keep their eyes on their own jobs. Let's worry more about our own business and less about some of the sensational events that had had so much printer's ink of late. There is much for us to do for ourselves these days. Let's have the inclination to do it.

Last fall the Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Co-operatives decided that January 1947 should be Farm Co-op Month. I say hats off to those responsible for its success. Soon after Gov. Sigler's inauguration I received a copy of his proclamation calling upon all citizens to give heed to the aims of the co-operative movement.

Many counties took advantage of the opportunity for rural-urban gatherings for a better understanding between farmers in co-operatives and businessmen and consumers in the cities. Posters were placed where they could do the most good. Many newspapers carried MAFIC stories and MAFIC advertisements on co-operatives. They were placed by local co-op councils. A state-wide radio broadcast Saturday evening, January 25, told the facts about farm co-operatives so convincingly in the brief time allotted that I believe the most skeptical listener could not help but feel that farm co-operatives have merit.

OTTAWA GROUP FIRST IN WEST MICHIGAN CONTEST

North Chester Community Farm Bureau, Ottawa county, won the \$150 sweepstakes award in the 1946 West Michigan Farm to Prosper contest at the annual dinner and program at Muskegon, January 30. Other county winners placed in the sweepstakes judging are as follows: North Ottawa Community Farm Bureau, Fruitland Grange, Blooming Valley Grange, Custer Community Farm Bureau, Ashland Grange.

The contest is promoted among rural community organizations in the five counties for the purpose of promoting rural community life. Prize money is contributed by the business organizations of the counties as a means of promoting rural-urban community interest. Prizes of \$50, \$30, \$20, \$15 and \$10 with certificates of award were presented to these winners:

Ottawa county—No. Chester Comm. Farm Bureau, No. Ottawa Junior F. B., Huyser Comm. F. B., Coopersville Grange.

Newaygo—Ashland Grange, Brookside Comm. F. B., Garfield Comm. F. B., Reeman Comm. F. B., Big Prairie Grange.

Oceana—Blooming Valley Grange, Oceana Center Grange, Blooming Valley PTA, Ferry Grange, Shelby Comm. F. B.

Mason—Custer Community F. B., Summit-Pere Marquette Comm. F. B.



MRS. H. E. STROHM

As discussion leader, Mrs. H. E. Strohm of Kent City R-1 suggested that North Chester Community Farm Bureau of Ottawa county enter the West Michigan Farm to Prosper contest for 1946. It won first place. She assisted in promoting the project in Ottawa county. Mrs. Strohm is a member of the state advisory council for Women's Activities in the Michigan Farm Bureau. In the 1946 Roll Call she wrote 32 Farm Bureau memberships.

46,928 This Edition

Our subscription list is 46,928 for February 1. This includes new members from the 1947 Roll Call. New members will be added to the Farm News list promptly on receipt from County Farm Bureaus. We shall appreciate postcards regarding change of address, failure of individual or other members to receive paper, corrections in spelling, etc.

Never use a hammer if it is not in good condition.

Farm work must be made safer than it has been in the past.

Buy Farm Bureau Feeds.

MILKMAKER HELPS PRODUCE MORE AT LOW COST

To make money you need production when there is a good market for the commodity manufactured, says Farm Bureau Services.

Milkmaker 34% protein helps do that job. It helps assure a healthy herd producing at top capacity. Now is the time to get results when milk and butterfat are selling at fair prices.

Milkmaker 34% adds about \$12 a ton to the cost of feeding grain alone, said Bob Addy of the Farm Bureau Services feed dept. For that \$12 per ton, he said, the dairyman feeds quality proteins from linseed, soybean, cottonseed and gluten meals and corn distillers grains. Milkmaker contains bone meal and salt—cobalt, iodine, manganese, copper and iron as the essential minerals. There is molasses for palatability. A ration containing Milkmaker 34% costs about 4 cents less per pound of protein than protein from grain fed alone. Milkmaker also contains 8,000,000 units of Vitamin D, the sunshine vitamin, in every ton. This is worth from \$1.40 to \$1.60 if purchased separately on the market.

The line of Milkmaker feeds was es-

tablished by the Farm Bureau in 1922 to help farmers increase milk production and lower the cost per pound of milk.

The recipe for perpetual ignorance is to be satisfied with your opinions and content with your knowledge.



Where Quality Comes First



PRICES ARE HIGHER THIS YEAR. The cost of a good seedling should never be figured in terms of price per bushel of seed. Higher first cost is often genuine economy in terms of acres seeded. Any of the following practices may prove to have a lower initial price tag—but prove very expensive in the final analysis!

- 1 Buying Argentine or other southern seed not of proven adaptation.
- 2 Using any seed not bearing a proper analysis tag for your protection.
- 3 Introducing any new weeds or tolerating unnecessary additions to those already introduced.
- 4 Buying seed with no guarantee when guaranteed seed is obtainable.
- 5 Purchasing from supporters of NTEA (an anti-co-operative organization). There are more of these than you know unless you have investigated.

CAUTION

Adapted seed stocks are more nearly adequate this year than for some time. However, the "fussy" buyer—the man who is particular what he sows—will still do well to purchase early. Indications point to rather early exhaustion of high-purity northern grown alfalfa and clovers. Place your order and take delivery NOW on seed. Let those less particular take the chances.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc.

Seed Dept. 221 N. Cedar St. Lansing, Mich.

SOME TIPS FOR OUR BOSSES

You Farm Bureau members know that the Farm Bureau Services, Inc., is owned by you and the members of the co-operatives that own stock in the "Services" and consequently the only reason "Services" exists is to do the job you want done.



The Feed Department of the "Services" feels that you, as our bosses, want in Farm Bureau Feeds:

1. **QUALITY** because quality assures the greatest return for each dollar you spend.
2. **PROPER PRICES** even though savings are returned to the user through patronage refund to co-operatives or Patrons' Relations groups—we believe in nominal margins both at our Hammond Mill and in our state margins.
3. **AMPLE FORTIFICATION** All Farm Bureau Feeds carry an overage of vitamins to assure "pick-up" in depleted flocks and herds and correct mineral balance to maintain health.

As your employees, we also feel we should keep you aware of conditions existing in the feed situation.

Below is a chart that graphically shows the benefit that comes from top-production. (Mermashes are today getting as high as 80 per cent egg production from White Rocks. Mermashes will get all possible production and maintain vigor.)

EFFECT OF YIELD ON COSTS, Poultry

This chart shows how much feed is required by hens of various sizes to produce 100, 200 or 300 eggs. Note how the feed per dozen eggs drops with higher egg production.

Body Wt.	Eggs Laid	Pounds Feed Consumed Per Dozen Eggs Produced		
4	100	56.5	14.2	8.5
4	200	56.5	28.4	5.1
4	300	56.5	42.6	4.0
6	100	73.6	14.2	10.5
6	200	73.6	28.4	6.1
6	300	73.6	42.6	4.6

Feed for maintenance Feed for eggs

FARM BUREAU SERVICES INC.

Feed Department 221 N. Cedar Street Lansing, Michigan

GOVERNOR AGREES WITH US ON FAIRS, AGR'L RESEARCH

Governor Sigler in his inaugural message pleased Michigan Farm Bureau members when he specifically endorsed two programs supported by the Farm Bureau.

He recommended an appropriation by the legislature to match federal funds for agricultural research in a broad program including marketing and new uses for agricultural products.

The Governor also asked the legislature to encourage local agricultural fairs by providing state aid for premiums, etc.

Look—Neighbors! Farm Bureau PETROLEUM SALE

"Why Not See Your Local Co-op or Farm Bureau Dealer Now"

Take Advantage of the Savings!

Actual Tests Show Value Of "Bureau Premium"

Here is a double purpose motor oil that cleans as it lubricates. "Bureau Premium" is the result of two years' research, engine testing and rigid field tests.

Top quality serviceable motor oil reinforced with chemical improvers to meet the qualifications of present day motors. It stands up better under heavy loads, high temperatures and severe friction.

Buy a year's supply of "BUREAU PREMIUM" for your auto, truck or tractor. Take advantage of this CO-OP SAVINGS.



BUREAU PREMIUM MOTOR OIL

The Farm Bureau Annual State-wide Petroleum Sale is now on. Here is an opportunity to make CO-OP SAVINGS and get CO-OP QUALITY. Stock up on your spring and early summer petroleum needs. Don't wait—Buy now.

USE NEW CO-OP PLUGS

Now is the time to get your tractor in shape for the heavy spring work that is coming soon.

The savings in gasoline and power will pay for a new set in a short time.

Recent tests have proven there are no better plugs built than CO-OP. BUY A NEW SET TODAY.



FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

Petroleum Dept. 221 N. Cedar Street Lansing 4, Michigan

The Future for Farm Co-operatives

Background Material for Discussion this Month by Our Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

By NORMAN K. WAGGONER, Research and Education

Many small grocers, hardware dealers, druggists and others have purchased their goods co-operatively for years. This has provided an opportunity for them to reduce satisfactorily the initial cost of merchandise. Very few farming operations are large enough to warrant wholesale purchases. The individual farmer is handicapped in purchasing farm supplies at a price conducive to good economy. Nor is he individually in a position to market his products except at wholesale prices. No industrial organization could long continue to operate under a plan whereby they would purchase at retail prices and sell at wholesale prices.

Farmers are discovering that co-operative business is equally good for agriculture. Consequently, farmer co-operatives have been organized throughout the United States in recognition of a need. This need may have been for better service or for service of a particular kind or for savings to the patron.

Co-operatives have been organized to furnish a local market for farm products. Others have been organized to process farm products, such as creameries or canneries. Others have been organized to handle the supplies of farm production. A few co-operatives have been organized to manufacture these farm supplies, such as fertilizer, farm machinery and equipment or to mill feeds. A few others have been organized to provide credit. Some to provide insurance and health protection.

In 1944-1945 there were in Michigan 255 farmers co-operatives, having a total of 135,600 members.

Their estimated annual business was \$161,450,000.

The east north central section of the United States which includes Michigan hold second place among the regions of the nation for the number of farmer co-operatives. Almost 1/4 of the co-operatives in this country are located in this region.

About 60% of the farm families in Michigan participate in co-operative activities. The dollar volume of business of co-operatives all over the country has made substantial gains in recent years. In 1944 the marketing co-operatives showed a 40% gain over the two years average for 1940-41. Likewise, the purchasing co-operatives have increased their volume by 125%.

Section 101, Internal Revenue Code, provides tax exemption for 19 classes of associations, organizations and non-profit corporations. In total, there are about 300,000 such organizations. Of these the most criticized income

tax free group are the co-operatives, especially the farmer co-operatives. However, of the returns received by the United States Bureau of Internal Revenue from organizations that filed their income tax exemptions, only 5% were farmer marketing and purchasing organizations. About 1/4 of the farmer co-operatives claim the income tax exemption to which they are entitled under the present law. The others prefer the taxes to the conditions of exemption which requires, among other things, that such co-operatives limit their voting stock to farmer patrons, hold stock dividends to 8% or less, deal principally with members, treat members and non-members alike in payment of patronage rebates.

Mr. Ben C. McCabe, of the National Tax Equality Association, had made the statement that there must be some advantage to be had by applying for income tax exemption or about 1/2 of the farmer co-operatives would not exercise every effort to qualify for such exemption. On the other hand, the advantage cannot be great or surely a much larger percentage of the farmer co-operatives would avail themselves of this provision. In view of the substantial volume of business now being done by the co-operatives and considering the heavy tax assessed on the incomes of corporations in recent years, several profit organizations have organized to investigate legislation in Washington which would tax the savings of co-operatives.

Those Who Oppose Any Change in the present income tax status of co-operatives say:

1. Any organization that returns its earnings to its patrons in proportion to patronage has no income on which to be taxed.
2. Co-operatives have no income. Their earnings represent an over payment by the patrons and rightfully belong to them.
3. Savings passed on to the patrons are subject to tax in the hands of the patron.
4. Attempts to tax patronage rebates to patrons at the co-op level is merely a scheme, under cover to put co-operatives out of business and eliminate this method of group business.
5. Savings allocated to the farmer on the basis of patronage by his co-op enable him to purchase more manufactured good thereby stimulating the market for industrial goods.

Those Who Advocate a Tax upon the savings of a co-operative say:

1. The Government's share of the income of a corporation is so great that it must be reflected in the retail price. Therefore, co-ops operating in the same community have their savings swollen by the weight of the tax upon the corporation.
2. Tax exempt co-ops do business on dollars worth 100 cents. Corporations do business on dollars reduced to the extent of the federal income tax.
3. The importance of this advantage is evidenced by the rapid growth of co-ops during recent years when corporate taxes were highest in history.
4. In 1942 co-ops did \$252,000,000 of petroleum business on which they paid little or no federal income tax. Had this been done by private corporations they would have paid about \$10,000,000 income tax.

market for industrial goods.

6. The distribution of saving stamps or premiums by business concerns operates on the same principle as a patronage rebate. Yet no one has suggested this be taxed.
7. The best way to avoid a monopoly is to provide opportunity for small businesses, such as the small grocer, the hardware dealer and others, as well as farmers, to buy on the large markets at the best possible price and to sell on the retail market at a price in line with the largest organizations in the country.
8. The increase in co-operative business in recent years is not out of line with the increase in business generally. In fact, sales by all types of

businesses in 1944 were 153% above the average for 1936-39.

More Community Groups Goal of Huron County

The organization of more Farm Bureau community discussion groups is the 1947 goal of the Huron County Farm Bureau, according to Frank Irion, president.

There are over 700 in the state and 27 in Huron county. They meet each month for the purpose of discussing with their neighbors a local, state and national question of importance to farmers. They also become better acquainted with people in the Farm Bureau and enjoy a social evening.



HERE'S YOUR CREW OF HANDYMEN FOR TOUGH JOBS ON THE FARM

Co-op Hydraulic Lever-Lift offers you full 8-foot lift from ground to heel of bucket.

All controls operated from driver's seat.

CO-OP HYDRAULIC LEVER-LIFT FITS ALL STANDARD ROW-CROP TRACTORS

The Co-op Hydraulic Lever Lift brings an end to backbreaking tasks that make farm work so hard. It does the labor of many hands at a very small cost. Five quickly changed attachments, maure fork, bulldozer, sweep, rake, gravel plate and snowplow, tools for all purposes. Shear pins protect the fork tines from breakage. NOW available for the following tractors:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| CO-OP 2 & C | ALLIS CHALMERS WC | JOHN DEERE A |
| CASE DC | MASSEY HARRIS 101 | FARMALL H, M & F30 |

For tractors without built-in pumps, Co-op Hydraulic equipment is now available.

See Your Local Farm Bureau Dealer or write direct to

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc.
Machinery & Electrical Dept.
217 North Cedar Street
Lansing, Michigan

When Ready to Market Live Stock

Instruct your trucker to deliver your consignment to the Michigan Live Stock Exchange—a state organization of livestock producers, feeders, and shippers—farmer owned and controlled.

It has a membership of approximately 26,000 in Michigan—90% of whom produce other farm commodities, such as grain, vegetables, fruit, etc., of very high quality.

The Michigan Live Stock Exchange operates its own selling agency on the Detroit market—handling all kinds of live stock on a commission basis. It also handles feeder cattle, calves and lambs in any number on the Detroit market—and in carload lots direct from the range or western markets to any point in the state.

For Market Information tune in WWJ at 7 a. m. for the Farm Story Program every day, Monday through Friday. Market Reports furnished WKAR, Michigan State College, Monday through Friday, at 7:15 a. m., 8:15 a. m., 12:30 p. m., and 6:55 p. m.

Michigan live stock is fed for market on a ration of grain grown on Michigan farms, which guarantees the consumer choice, quality meat at all times.

Annual Meeting of Michigan Live Stock Exchange at Hotel Olds, Lansing, Saturday, March 15. Business sessions during the day. Annual banquet in the evening. Exchange shipper members invited.

Michigan Live Stock Exchange

George J. Boutell, Manager

SALESMEN: Cattle, J. H. McCrum and Ted Barrett; Sheep and Calves, Charley Culver and "Jake" Bollman; Hogs, Art Bickford; Office, Morton Nelson.

Check for \$981,660,783



On rural routes everywhere in America, on snowy highways of the north, on sunny by-ways of the south, live the 5,500,000 ranch and farm families who produce America's supply of food. It's a big supply, too, the greatest in the world. From your farms and ranches in 1946 came livestock, dairy and poultry products and crops to the value of about twenty-three billion dollars, according to latest available government estimates. Meat animals and dairy and poultry products accounted for about 60 percent of the total farm cash income, current estimates reveal. Agriculture, the nation's most essential industry, is "big business" in every sense of the phrase.

Of all your cash income last year, \$981,660,783* came from Swift & Company in payments for livestock and other agricultural raw materials. We purchased your livestock and other products and converted them into millions of pounds of quality meats, valuable by-products, other foods and products. Part of the money you received

from Swift came from our meat packing plants, dairy and poultry plants and buying stations. Another portion of the money paid out by us was for soybeans, cottonseed, peanuts and other raw materials.

Swift provides a wide, ready, year 'round market for your livestock and other products—and out of every dollar we receive in a year from sales, we return, on the average, 75¢ to you. Last year, 1.3¢ out of each dollar of sales was profit. Part of this amount was paid out as dividends to the 63,365 shareholders as a return on their investment. Part was retained in the business for future needs.

Returns for Savings. It is not the investment of a few rich people that has built Swift & Company, but the pooled savings of 63,365 people. Among them you'll find farmers, ranchers, lawyers, doctors, mechanics, business people—folks from every walk of life . . . including 29,941 women.

The savings these shareholders have invested in Swift & Company provide the plants and facilities—the tools with which we handle your products. The return for their thriftiness comes to them as dividends paid out of the company's profit. In 1946 that dividend amounted to \$1.90 a share.

Soda Bill Sez: . . . what's wrong with people is not their ignorance, but the number of things they know that aren't so.

For People . . . By People

We at Swift & Company think of our business as being owned by 63,365 people, the shareholders and their families, and operated by 66,000 employees. We provide essential services for agricultural producers and many other large groups of people. Employment is created for other thousands who work for railroads, trucking firms, livestock commission houses, stockyards companies, and the suppliers who furnish us salt, sugar, boxes, barrels, machinery and a thousand-and-one other things. A part of the business of thousands upon thousands of retailers everywhere in the nation is in purchasing Swift's quality meats and other products to millions of American families.

In return for all the effort that made these services possible, the folks who work for Swift earned \$164,013,099 in wages and salaries in 1946. This sum is 88% of the total remaining after all bills except taxes were paid, and is ten times more than the company's total net profit.

FEED VALUES ARE SOIL VALUES

by Wm. A. Albrecht University of Missouri

Wm. A. Albrecht Recently a farmer friend of mine told me, "I've moved to another farm where I get bigger yields in all my feed crops. But even though I shovel much more corn and pitch a lot more hay, I can't get my calves to market as early. I'm just not growing as much meat per acre."

This man doesn't realize that feed bulk is no indication of feed value. Livestock will not gain more on larger rations unless the feed value of any crop is derived from the basic plant food elements found in the soil. The crop must first build up the woody structure that makes up its bulk. Then, if soil conditions are right, the plant will store up a supply of the raw materials of protein, vitamins, and mineral compounds. Thus, whether a crop offers anything more than bulk and fattening power depends on the condition of the soil on which it grew. Livestock may be fed great quantities of feedstuffs produced on poor soils and still fail to gain weight. It is soil that has been guarded against erosion, fertilized properly, and carefully managed, that grows nutritious crops. Such soil will produce crops that give better feeding results and make more meat per acre.

Swift & Company

UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

Nutrition is our business—and yours



"WHERE DID THAT \$1,308,364,155 GO?"

During 1946 Swift & Company received \$1,308,364,155 from the sale of its products and by-products. By the end of the year the Company had earned a net profit of \$16,394,739, which is slightly less than 1.3¢ on each dollar of sales.

What happened to the rest of that money?

Well, the largest part was paid to farmers and ranchers who sold us livestock and other agricultural products. They got \$981,660,783* or 75¢ out of the average sales dollar we received for products sold, including all by-products such as hides, wool, soybean meal, etc.

The next largest portion of our sales dollar went to all Swift employees. Their share of the dollar was 12.6¢. Fuel barrels, boxes, paper, salt, sugar and other supplies took 4.8¢ out of the average dollar.

Transportation took 2¢ (Meat travels, on the average, over 1,000 miles from producer to consumer.)

Taxes took another 1¢. All other expenses, including depreciation, interest and miscellaneous business costs, amounted to 3.3¢.

All these costs taken out of the sales dollar left 1.3¢. This was Swift & Company's net profit in 1946—a profit of only 1/4 of 1¢ on each pound of the millions of pounds of products and by-products handled.

Wm. B. Traynor, Vice President & Treasurer

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