

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS Successor to the Michigan Farm Bureau News, founded January 15, 1923. Entered as second class matter January 12, 1923, at the post-office at Charlotte, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

FORAM and MARTHA S. CLARK Pillow to Pillow It seems, as I ponder the news of the day, Of "portal-to-portal" and claims for arrears, Of harsh ultimatums and "minimum pay"

SOME APPARENTLY GOOD SEED DEAR AT ANY PRICE By WARREN E. DOBSON, Farm Bureau Services Seed Dept. Losing a hay crop is plenty serious business. First loss is the direct money loss when it becomes necessary to purchase hay for the crop that wasn't there.

PAINT SEALS SILO AGAINST DAMAGING AIR SEEPAGE In the fall the farmer and the farmer's wife both become food processors. The farmer's wife puts down a crock of sauerkraut, her husband fills the silo. Both processes are similar.

Eaton Women Stage Rural Schools Meeting Women of the Eaton County Farm Bureau presented a discussion of rural school problems at Charlotte, January 28, which filled the high school auditorium. People came to hear men from the state dept of public instruction, local school superintenders and the school officers, and speakers from the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Community Farm Bureau Activities

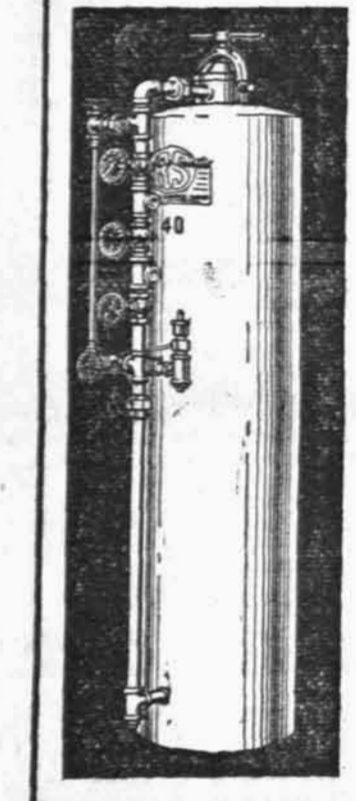
By MRS. MARJORIE KARKER Membership Relations and Education In these summary reports of community Farm Bureau meetings the name of the group, the county and number in attendance are given in that order.

they will effect Midland county because of the sales tax diversion and soldier's bonus. North Washington, Gratiot—18. Group voted to organize one or more 4-H Clubs in the community during the summer.

It seems, as I ponder the news of the day, Of "portal-to-portal" and claims for arrears, Of harsh ultimatums and "minimum pay" Deduced from statistics compiled thru the years, It seems, as I ponder the gulf that is fixed

are without electricity group decided to write their Congressmen urging that R. E. A. be continued. North Branch-Arcadia, Lapeer—33. Opposition expressed by this group to the fact that potatoes are being furnished free by the government to the school hot lunch program.

The Reynolds-Shaffer WATER CONDITIONER Actually Pays for Itself! Your R-S Water Conditioner will save enough on plumbing repairs, wash-worn clothes and health to pay for itself in a very short time.



Manufactured by Reynolds-Shaffer Company 12100 Cloverdale Ave., Detroit 4, Michigan On Sale at Your Farm Bureau Dealer

ANTU and You The War on Rats Is

not confined to minor skirmishes. It is a major battle. To win it we need to be ever alert. We need the best weapons at our command and a determination to continue the use of them.

"Readers Digest," Oct. 1946 Said: "Rats have an uncanny instinct for avoiding poisoned food. 'ANTU' was the exception." "Liberty," June 8, 1946 said

BUY FARM BUREAU BRAND So convinced are we of the demand for this new product that we are committed to a large quantity purchase under our own Farm Bureau label. The label bears the name "Quick Deth" at the top and is printed in three colors.

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.

Unadapted Seed. One kind of cheap seed is southern grown or other unadapted seed. If you bought Argentine alfalfa, for example, and it water-killed the first year, it was expensive seed at any price.

Home grown timothy can be cheap in price and prove entirely unacceptable because of low germination. The same is often true of lawn grasses, Reeds canary grass, orchard grass, domestic rye grass, brome and others.

St. Joseph Tops USO Quota St. Joseph County Community Farm Bureau accepted a USO quota of 400 for 16 townships and raised a total of \$574.90, with prospects of making it \$600.

Home grown timothy can be cheap in price and prove entirely unacceptable because of low germination. The same is often true of lawn grasses, Reeds canary grass, orchard grass, domestic rye grass, brome and others.

"Look, Dad-I've got a check for growing seed potatoes!"

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

AMERICAN RAILROADS TRANSPORTATION BLDG., WASHINGTON, D. C. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL AMERICA

Making the Most of My Membership

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

By NORMAN E. WAGGONER, Research and Education

Ever since 1776 American farmers have been striving to preserve their liberty and to improve their economic security. The Declaration of Independence was written by Thomas Jefferson, a leader among farmers. The Revolutionary War, a war to make men free, was fought largely by farmers. The fight goes on. No wonder American farmers, shortly after the Civil War, spurred on by high costs and low income, flocked to the new Grange movement in the 1870's. No wonder they turned to group action when the post-war depression robbed them of their farms and drove them west. They joined forces with each other just as their forefathers did in 1776. The great railroads were bleeding them white so they took their cause to Congress and won the first Government control over freight rates. American farmers value their freedom high.

Next came the depression of the 1930's. The American farmers again took up the fight to regain their rights as free men. Then it was the Farmers' Union which sprang up in the west in 1902. These were our farm organization parents and grandparents. They were fighting for us. Farm people are still building the sinews of democracy—the soul of America. The fight for a decent life must be won again and again because our world is on the move.

See what American farmers faced after World War I. Right on top of record food production and inflated farm income came a sudden collapse in farm prices. Who says farmers won't organize? Time after time farmers all over America have swarmed to their organizations. Out of this crisis sprang the American Farm Bureau. Out of the farm depression of the early 20's it developed a healthy growth. Farmers again awoke to the necessity of getting together as citizens to make their voice heard.

Today we face the reconstruction period following World War II. Even in the midst of record farm income farmers see thunderheads rolling up on the skyline. Already the hallstones of mounting costs are beginning to cut the leaves of farm prosperity. American farmers are saying, this time we are not waiting for the storm to strike. The memory of past experience is sharp. We must put our houses in

order while there is yet time. Can the storm be closing in faster than we think? The fate of hard earned freedom is once more in the balance. Will we rise to the occasion? Will we organize? Will I, as an individual, do my part in this organized effort?

What is it worth to you to have:

- 1—Exemption from the 3% sales tax on all purchases of farm production supplies, such as farm machinery, feeds, seeds and fertilizer for use in producing products for sale?
- 2—Obtained government pledge of 90% of parity for the price of farm produce until January 1, 1949?
- 3—An opportunity to buy open formula feeds?
- 4—An opportunity to buy seeds which are guaranteed as to vitality, description, origin and purity?
- 5—Federal aid for hospitals and medical facilities?
- 6—Federal appropriation of funds for research in agricultural marketing?
- 7—A part of the revenue of the state liquor tax allocated back to this county for the maintenance of roads?
- 8—In this community, an opportunity for the farm youth to affiliate themselves with a farm organization, or for the women to take an active part in this organization?
- 9—A Community Farm Bureau in this neighborhood?

These are a few of the achievements to agriculture which are noteworthy. Have these come about as a natural course of events or has it been that other economic groups thought they should do something for agriculture? Or, have farmers been able to accomplish this for themselves through being organized? It seems that if these achievements have been worth working to obtain they surely are worth our every effort to protect.

Those who favor a strong farm organization say:

- 1—Farming is a big business. The average investment in land, buildings and equipment on Michigan farms in 1945 was \$8,221. Farmers must organize to protect this investment.
- 2—Organized labor and consumers want cheap food. Farmers must organize to maintain a fair share of the National income.
- 3—Through farmers being organized it becomes possible for them to process fruit, dairy products and other farm produce, thus bringing the producers and consumers closer together, thereby increasing the farmer's share of the consumer's dollar.
- 4—Agriculture must be represented at all legislative hearings in which agriculture has a stake. We can't make ourselves heard here unless we are organized.
- 5—Farmers must organize or be satisfied with a Government in the control of those who are organized.

Those who question the value of farm organization often say:

- 1—What has the Farm Bureau done for me?
- 2—Farm organizations frequently express themselves on matters pertaining to agriculture, but many times that is the sentiment of only a few.
- 3—I am not interested in what happens in Washington, I want to run my own business.
- 4—Farm organizations have helped out. But why haven't they done more? Our annual loss of soil fertility is of grave concern. Our lack of health facilities in rural areas is a big problem. It seems that the matter of price adjustments for farm products needs some attention. Why doesn't Farm Bureau do more along these lines?

The Present Situation:

It is significant to note from the above mentioned origin of farm organizations that farmers have recognized the importance of organization, particularly during periods of economic distress. It seems unfortunate that we should wait until such conditions arise as to endanger our economic position.

It is interesting to note that every member in the Farm Bureau has become a member through choice. Farming has not become a closed shop.

However, membership is not enough. We must go farther. Every Farm Bureau member is invited to affiliate himself with a Community Farm Bureau, to express himself on agricultural matters, to make his wishes known and to take an active part in the organization and direction of its policies.

A tribute is in order to those faithful Farm Bureau members who have so loyally carried on the business thru the past years; Those, who without thought of pay or reward, have worked faithfully to bring about better living conditions for those who till the soil. This tribute is owed to the members of the board of directors and their wives who, without pay or mileage, have so faithfully attended the board meetings every month. To the county secretary, whose work is keeping records of the members and funds, far exceeds the pay he receives; to the officers of the community groups upon whose shoulders rest the responsibility of successful meetings, looking after all the small and numerous details necessary for a good discussion group.

To the county community group director who often drives miles through rain or snow at night to organize a new group, to the members of the numerous committees so necessary for the successful operation of an important organization like your Farm Bureau.—From the "Shlawesses County Farm Bureau Flashies."

A Tribute To Those Who Serve Us

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To the county community group di-

USE.... FRANCE AGSTONE

Lime your fields now to insure greater production.

FRANCE AGSTONE has been aiding production successfully for over 25 years.

Plant located just south of the city limits of Monroe, on US-25.

THE FRANCE STONE COMPANY
MONROE, MICHIGAN

To Be SURE

Follow the Farm Bureau 1947 SPRAY & DUST PROGRAM



BOOK YOUR REQUIREMENT WITH YOUR FARM BUREAU DEALER NOW

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc.
221 N. Cedar St. Lansing, Michigan

Get Your Season's Oil Needs at Money Saving Prices

Order your season's petroleum needs now while your local Farm Bureau or Co-operative Oil Dealer is sponsoring this money saving special. Our purchasing in large quantities permits the savings to you.



REAL QUALITY

"BUREAU PREMIUM" is a top quality serviceable motor oil reinforced with additives (chemical improvers) to meet present day motor needs of tractors, trucks and automobiles.

Using "Bureau Premium" means less carbon deposits helps ward off sludge around piston rings, valve stems and bearings improves wear reducing qualities and protects against bearing corrosion.

Try this double purpose oil today—it cleans as it lubricates.

BUREAU PREMIUM MOTOR OIL

Bureau Premium, Bureau Penn, Unico and Unico Heavy-Duty oils are made in farmer-owned refineries. They are tested and designed for farm use. Remember, for every Farm Bureau product you buy you build your business that much for you.

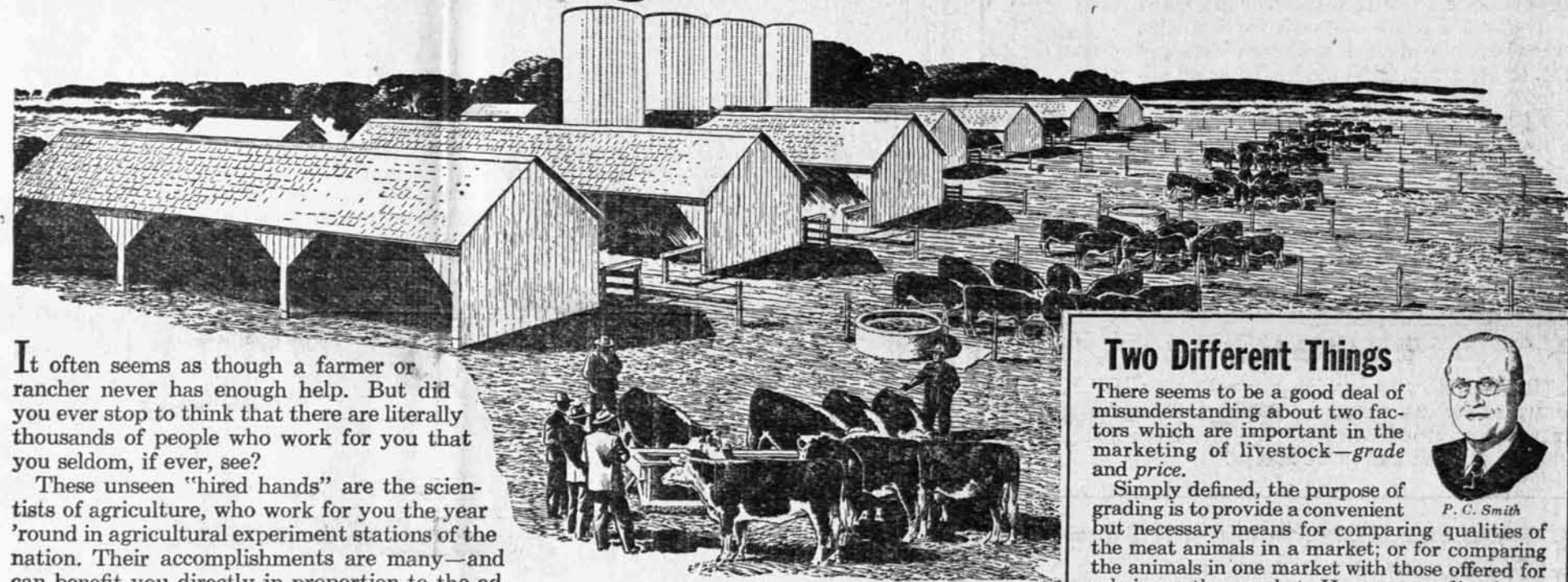
Ask Your Farm Bureau Oil Dealer about these quality products

Gasoline Fuel Oil Greases
Batteries Spark Plugs Tires

THE SALE IS ON NOW — DON'T WAIT WHY NOT VISIT YOUR DEALER TOMORROW

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc.
Petroleum Dept. 221 N. Cedar St. Lansing, Mich.

Are you using these "hired hands"?



It often seems as though a farmer or rancher never has enough help. But did you ever stop to think that there are literally thousands of people who work for you that you seldom, if ever, see?

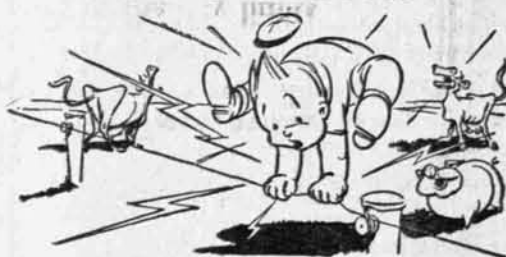
These unseen "hired hands" are the scientists of agriculture, who work for you the year 'round in agricultural experiment stations of the nation. Their accomplishments are many—and can benefit you directly in proportion to the advantage you take of their services. They've helped increase productivity of the land, helped develop better-yielding crops, better livestock and poultry. Yet, never satisfied that perfection has been reached, the experiment stations continue to explore the possibilities of further aid to agriculture.

The experiment stations in the 48 states are to the business of agriculture what our research laboratories are to Swift & Company. It is in the research laboratory that we put science to work for us, to improve our products and our business. It costs us money—but we consider it money well spent. Farmers and ranchers are indeed fortunate to have much of their research work done for them—and paid for out of public funds derived from taxes.

We like to think of these agricultural experiment stations as a vast bank of valuable scientific knowledge. To maintain the assets of this bank, millions of dollars from this year's \$1,235,055,000 budget of the United States Department of Agriculture go to the various state experiment stations, to conduct experiments sponsored by the U. S. D. A. In addition, about \$12,000,000 is provided by the states to staff and maintain the sta-

tions. Remember, this is your bank from which you can make withdrawals of real value any time you wish. Information is available on any subject relating to farming or ranching. Direct your request either to the Dept. of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C., or to your own state college, state experiment station or extension service. If you do not have the address, ask your county agent or vocational agriculture teacher. Or write to us at Swift & Company, Department A-5, Chicago 9, Illinois.

OUR CITY COUSIN



City Cousin is shocked to see how strong a one-wire fence can be... Wheeee!

SIZE OF BUSINESS

by J. L. Tennant
Rhode Island State College

A farm business should be large enough to pay operating costs, interest on the investment, and family living expenses. A southern New England dairy farm, for example, should have at least 18 cows per man; a poultry farm, 1,500 layers; a market-garden farm, 10 acres; a potato farm, 40 acres; and an apple farm, 20 acres.

Doing more business with the same capital investment is one way to lower costs and higher profits. With the larger business, the operator can spend more of his time at productive work. For example, workers on a dairy farm with 9 to 10 cows per man will be just as busy as on a farm with 15 to 18 cows per man. The gross sales and net income on the larger operation will be much higher because more of the time is used in producing milk. Reducing costs per unit puts the farm operator in a stronger competitive position.

If more crop land cannot be bought, perhaps it can be rented. Another plan is to check means by which crop production on present acreage can be increased. Ways to do this include: the use of lime and fertilizer; winter cover crops; higher yielding varieties; double cropping; drainage and terracing.

Another step toward efficiency is to install modern equipment which enables one person to produce more per hour. Overhead costs per unit of product can be lowered when each machine is used profitably for as many hours as possible.

A Big Market of Little People

A new outlet for meat has been developed! Hundreds of thousands of "little people" in America, the babies of the nation, are now eating meat. Swift's Meats for Babies and Juniors are specially prepared for them. These new products give today's babies a better chance than ever before for robust health and full physical development.

The better the food, the better the baby! That's why doctors are so enthusiastic about Swift's Meats for Babies. They know that meat provides complete, high-quality proteins, the essential body-builders—iron, the blood-builder—and needed vitamins in natural form. They know, too, that these vital food elements in meat are most important when babies are young—actually building their bodies. And so, many doctors are recommending Swift's Meats for Babies and Juniors—strained for the very young and diced for older children.

This is but one example of the many ways Swift's research, distribution and promotion contribute to the nation's nutrition and build new markets for the products of your farm and ranch. Mothers: if you'd like a free copy of a new informative booklet, "Meat in Your Baby's Diet," write Swift & Company, Dept. B-79 Chicago 9, Illinois.

Two Different Things

There seems to be a good deal of misunderstanding about two factors which are important in the marketing of livestock—grade and price.

Simply defined, the purpose of grading is to provide a convenient but necessary means for comparing qualities of the meat animals in a market; or for comparing the animals in one market with those offered for sale in another market. However, grading is not an exact science because it depends to quite an extent on the judgment of the person doing the buying or selling. Grades are standards which take into consideration the sex, weight, quality, conformation and finish of animals.

Now, let's have a look at price. Price is not a factor in determining grade. Just because some animals are in a higher grade does not mean that they always will sell for a higher price than animals in a lower grade. For example, it happens at times that a medium grade of cattle sells for as much or more than a good grade. Such a condition may come about when there is a heavy demand for, but only a light supply of, medium grade; while on the same day a big supply and a light demand of good grade cattle will not bring so high a price.

The same situation may exist in the case of lambs. In communities where racial customs affect eating habits, there are times when carcasses of lightweight, thin lambs sell for as much as the fat, well-finished, choice type. Again the law of supply and demand is in action.

Always remember that price and grade are two different things. Try to think of each separately; and we believe you will have a much clearer and truer picture of grading and marketing of livestock.

P. C. Smith, Vice President
In Charge of Beef, Lamb, Veal

Martha Logan's Recipe for BEEF GOULASH

- 2 pounds beef chuck
- 1/4 cup flour
- 3 tablespoons fat
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 cup celery leaves
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 1/4 teaspoon sage
- 1 teaspoon caraway seed (optional)
- 1 teaspoon salt

Cut beef into chunks and roll in flour. Melt fat in skillet. Brown meat well. Add remaining ingredients. Cover skillet and cook slowly for 3 1/2 hours, or until tender. (Yield: 6 servings.)

Things are NOT always as they seem

Which of the two shapes shown at left is the larger? The white one or the black one? The white one certainly appears to be bigger. But actually they are exactly the same size.

In the livestock-meat industry, too, things are not always as they seem. For example, sometimes people think of Swift's total profits as being large. Yet the actual fact is that in 1946 dividend payments to shareholders were less than 4% on the shareholders' investment; the company's net earnings from all sources were 1 1/4¢ per dollar of sales... only a fraction of a cent per pound of product handled. That seems to be doing business on a mighty narrow margin—and it is!

Swift & Company
UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

Nutrition is our business—and yours