Food Prices Reflect the Pressures
as high...

Vol. XXVI, No. 10

The Washington Daily News said in September: "Our eventual goal should be the abolition of the price-support system, and we should be working toward that objective as rapidly as conditions will permit. After metropolitan newspapers have sounded the note. They want the government out of the farm program. They believe that would cause farm prices to fall—but they were driven down. The bane result from their point of view would be cheap food, with business as usual everywhere else.

To be consistent the Washington Daily News and other newspapers should campaign to get government out of labor, industry and business. But not a word is said.

For example, the Daily News would be consistent in dealing with inflation if it took notice of labor tie-ins and demands for a special wage scale for the minimum wage laws, the 40 hour week, and what and what bullets. It would be consistent if it were to demand the repeal of the unfair price laws.

Business has secured such laws in 46 states to protect the prices that many nationally known manufacturers and retailers make.

Farmers' share of the inflation isn't as great as a lot of people think. In September the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture noted that retail food prices had reached all time high. The farmer's share of the food dollar was near the lowest point in five years. In contrast marketing costs and profits were bumping against their all-time high.

The American Farm Bureau, the National Grange, and the National Council of Farmers Co-operatives has been called by various states to check if farm prices are not out of line with inflated wages and city income. (2) (government supports rise or fall only on a few costs of city made price gains and is too high or too low; 2) a steep farm price drop would re-duce business markets and help create a depression. Lower food prices are on the way to devour farmers' massive production job this summer. This will take a little time, especially for live stock products.

Price Support for Beans

Michigan farmers should find it to their advantage to designate the government's price support plans for beans, according to advice from the Michigan State College agricultural economics dept. and from the Michigan Elevator Exchange.

There is a large crop which exceeds the probable domestic demand. Army and export outlets are smaller. Any rise in the price paying price below the parity price of $13.50 per hundred weight in February to about $7.70 now. Beans are to have price support at 90 percent of parity. Information regarding the current support prices and participation in the program is to be had from the county AAA committee office.

Food Prices Reflect the Pressures

Farmers should feel better that they are being blamed for high food prices, in the opinion of Arthur M. A., agronomist at Michigan State College. That would mean, said Mr. Mauch, that the farmer has the power to fix the prices the consumer pays.

But, recalling a little history and using a little arithmetic, Mr. Mauch says that it isn't so.

One of the most important things to do is to drop in a business recession. The farmer takes for his product what the consumer is willing to pay after making costs of harvesting, marketing, and transportation, distribution and selling, plus a profit.

The real reason for high food prices, Mr. Mauch believes, is that consumers have 2 1/2 times more income now as good as before the war, and an extra 50 cents a week, really represents demand—the power to buy. Farm production has increased about one third, and that is an outstanding performance. We have fewer farmers today. That production represents supply.

Economists have contended for years that the relationship between food supply and demand determines price. Using this simple arithmetic, and dividing the goods into money available to buy, the price is twice as

There is too much money to spend in relation to (Continued on page two)

Fertilizer Plant
Off to Good Start

Fertilizer Services is off to a good start for producing a very large volume of fertilizers at the new plant at Saginaw for the spring of 1948. The plant began making mixed fertilizers March 6 while construction men still had a great deal to do. About 13,000 tons were made for the spring season.

The fertilizer business has been plagued by a shortage of nitrogen and potash. This was aggravated in mid-spring by a six weeks strike in the potash industry. Delivery of potash ceased for that period, and the manufacturing time lost could not be regained. So the Fertilizer Bureau was able to produce only 9,000 tons for spring made-up fertilizers. Figures were: 2-15-46, 0-20-20, 2-20-10 and 2-20-10.

The general shortage of nitrogen and potash continues to the present time, but the situation is not as bad as we have previously set forth. There is plenty of phosphate and the Fertilizer Bureau is in excellent position on that commodity. It has an abundant supply of manure and superphosphate, up to 30,000 tons annually.

In the closing days of the spring season the Fertilizer Bureau was manufacturing, mixing and shipping fertilizers at the rate of 50,000 tons a year. It was operating two eight hour shifts per day. That production increased to 10,000 tons a month in May and June. Under the two acre plant is some measure of the efficient mechanism of the operation. As fertilizer materials

Michigan Farm Bureau
RECOMMENDATIONS

Regulating Proposals to Appear on
Ballot at the Election Nov. 2

COSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The Proposal will be a separate ballot

Shall a convention be called for a general revision of the constitution? Farm Bureau is not necessarily in favor of the proposal, but it sees no necessity since the Constitution of 1909 contains most liberal provisions for amendments, proposed by the legislature, or initiated by the membership of the Farm Bureau. Bureau sees no necessity since the Constitution of 1909 contains most liberal provisions for amendments, as proposed by the legislature, or initiated by the membership of the Farm Bureau.

 devised for adoption of the Farm Bureau. Bureau sees no necessity since the Constitution of 1909 contains most liberal provisions for amendments, advanced by the legislature, or initiated by the membership of the Farm Bureau.

Should a constitutional amendment be adopted permitting the sale of farm real estate without judicial proceedings? This amendment is in public interest.
Food Patterns for the Future

Farmers increased their capacity to produce the highest levels in the history of agriculture. Prospects are that they will produce even more in the future, according to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

What will happen to the market for farm products is one of the important problems before us. If prices remain high, farm production is likely to increase as much as population increases. Even if prices decline, production would not be reduced much, in the judgment of the Department. It says that if farms were to reduce a production in output would mean greater reductions in cash returns than would be saved in cash outlays. The Department of Agriculture methods that have raised output per acre and per worker will continue to be profitable for individual farmers.

At the present level of farm production, however, the present production and consumption pattern for food is in need of adjustment. In some years in the near future it will be necessary to make full use of our expanded production capacity. That will call for a complete shift from the present production and consumption pattern for food.

One of the changes—and the most important—will be a shift to greater production of live stock and milk. The advantage of live stock over other products and the shift toward agricultural mechanization also will serve to increase the number of dairy farms and the output of milk, meat, eggs, and lamb.

Several County Farm Bureau delegations are planning to visit the plant this summer and early fall. County Farm Bureau deputies are to be scheduled to tour Saginaw. The list includes three County Farm Bureau: Barry, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo, Mississippi, Livingston, Oceana, Allegan, St. Joseph, Muskegon, Newaygo, Osceola, Van Buren, Washtenaw, Wayne and Oceola.

Plants to Off a Good Start

Fertilizer Plant to Off a Good Start

The Michigan Farm Bureau, if necessary, can report its real powers as a manufacturer.

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Know Your Bible

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The best of all foundations of knowledge is the Bible. From it we find our parents and ancestors directed in all ways.

Not only is the Bible the best of all foundations of knowledge, but it is the best of all foundations of faith. The Bible is the best of all foundations of character, the best of all foundations of love, the best of all foundations of hope, the best of all foundations of freedom, the best of all foundations of courage, the best of all foundations of peace, the best of all foundations of success, the best of all foundations of happiness.

CO-operatives NOW OFF 18 OIL REFINERIES

The first oil refinery to date was the one founded by the American Oil Company. Today there are 18 refineries in the United States that produce oil.

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IT'S KILLSFLIES KILLSDISEASEGERMS GIVESWHITEWALLS

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Kills spiders, 

90 less cobwebs for 

15 lb. $2.75, 50 lb. $4.85. 

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Serve with Pickled Orange Slices.

SWIFT & COMPANY Chicago, 9, Illinois

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

November 11 and 12, 1948

At Lansing Hotels and Private Residences

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15—For information regarding rooms,

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The National Farm Machinery Cooperative Inc., has announced the establishment of a new office in the Midwest to serve the needs of members in the central and western regions of the United States. The office will be located in Des Moines, Iowa, and will provide sales, marketing, and administrative services to the cooperative's members in this area.

The new office, which will be known as the Midwest Regional Office, will be headed by a manager who will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the cooperative's operations in the Midwest. The manager will be assisted by a team of experienced professionals who will be responsible for providing customer service, sales support, and administrative assistance to the cooperative's members.

The Midwest Regional Office will play a critical role in the cooperative's efforts to expand its membership and increase its market share in the Midwest. The office will be responsible for recruiting new members, developing new sales strategies, and implementing innovative marketing techniques to attract new business.

In addition to providing sales and marketing services, the Midwest Regional Office will also play a key role in the cooperative's efforts to provide high-quality products and services to its members. The office will be responsible for ensuring that the cooperative's products and services meet the needs of its members and exceed their expectations.

The opening of the Midwest Regional Office is a significant milestone in the cooperative's efforts to expand its footprint in the Midwest. The cooperative is committed to providing its members with the highest level of service and support, and the opening of the new office is a clear indication of its continued commitment to this goal.

The National Farm Machinery Cooperative Inc., is a member-owned cooperative that provides a wide range of products and services to its members, including farm equipment, parts and supplies, and financial services. The cooperative is headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and serves members in all 50 states.

We look forward to working with our members in the Midwest and to provide them with the same high level of service and support that they have come to expect from the National Farm Machinery Cooperative Inc.,
Farm Bureaus have appointed Miss Becker to work in 23 counties. Miss Becker was case supervisor for the FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1948

ASHALT ROOF COATING (Liquid)

No's 158-159. What is the cause of the black spots or streaks that appear on a new asphalt coating? This can easily be explained by the fact that the asphalt coating is a mixture of many different materials, some of which are more susceptible to ultraviolet light and atmospheric conditions than others. This can result in the formation of black spots or streaks, which are known as "mildew" or "fungal" stains.

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Are You Ready To Decide?

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

RECENT MATERIAL-Since the last meeting, the following materials have been made available:

1. An 11-page constitution providing for a general revision of the society.

2. A 14-page constitution providing for a general revision of the society.

3. A 16-page constitution providing for a general revision of the society.

By STANLEY R. WARDNER, Research and Discussion Director

What should our legislators do? Should the amendment which limits the tax rate on property to not more than 15 mills be liberalized? Should those persons or organizations which are operating in the state and being financed by foreign countries be required to register? These are some of the decisions which Michigan voters are faced with today when they go to the polls.

It seems that the effects of these amendments are so far reaching that no voter can afford not to vote, and every voter must become informed on the issues in order to have any say in the decisions of the legislators. It is very necessary that every voter have more than a general idea of the issues before him.

Proposal No. 4. This amendment, if adopted, would remove from our state constitution the present limitations on salaries paid to members of the legislature. Twenty years ago a provision was written into the Michigan constitution that members of the state legislature would be paid a day for every day they were in regular or special session. In addition, the members of the legislature would be paid ten cents a mile for one round trip to and from regular or special sessions.

There are three benefits to be derived from this provision which may have been the reason it was written into the constitution, but important conditions have been changed considerably since then. Certainly the purpose of the provision today is not to provide a moral incentive to the legislators to live up to their responsibilities, but rather to make the job worth living. In recent years, the public has demanded much more from the officials of the legislature. In addition to making laws, they have been called upon to serve in numerous committees and to make public appearances.

The American political process is no longer a simple one. It is not unusual for those who are in public service to be called upon to make public appearances and to answer questions regarding their work at any time. With increased responsibilities comes the need for the legislature to have more time to devote to their work. It may be said that the present provision is no longer adequate for the present day and age.

On the other hand, there are two aspects of the proposal which should be noted. First, if the proposal is adopted, it will not mean that the persons elected to the legislative office will no longer be able to make money on the job. They will continue to receive the salary which they receive today. Second, it will not mean that the legislators will not be called upon to serve in some capacity. Those who are not called upon to serve in any capacity will still receive their salaries.

This proposal would take the salary limitations out of the present amendment and allow the legislature to remain in session for up to 100 days per year. It is the opinion of those who support the proposal that it will be to the advantage of the state and the individual if the proposal is adopted.

The Michigan Farm Bureau believes that there is no reason for the state to pay the legislators for their services. The state has no ability to make a profit on the money which is paid to the legislators. The_view of the Farm Bureau is that this is a step closer to the day when the state will be able to function without the benefit of the services of its legislators.

A "yes" vote on this proposal would be to the advantage of both the state and the individual.

The status of the proposal for next term will be decided by the next regular term of the legislature.