

# Michigan Farm News

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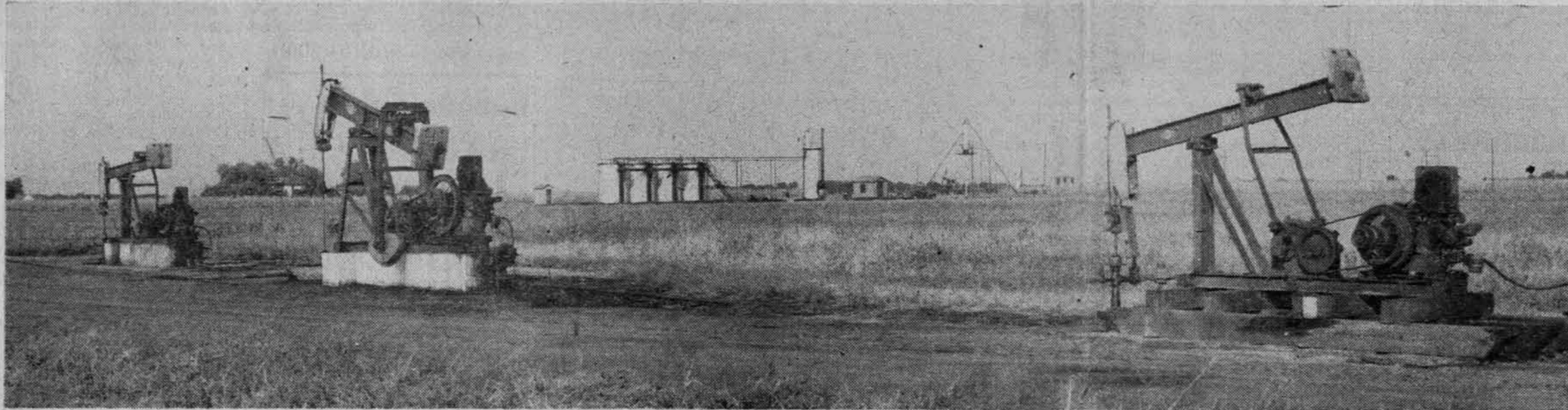
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1951

29th Year

Published Monthly

## Farmers Petroleum Co-op Buys Big Production of Oil

### Purchase of Oil Source Provides Nearly Half of FPC Needs



In the foreground we see three of 136 oil wells just purchased by Michigan farmers through their Farmers Petroleum Co-operative. The crude oil properties are located in some of the richest farming land of central Illinois. Although these wells are pumping side by side, each one is operating from a different pool. The pump at left is drawing from 900 feet, the one in the middle is pumping from 2200 feet and the one on the right is producing petroleum from 1200 feet down in the earth. In the background we see one of several batteries of storage tanks together with a separator and heater that are included in the properties purchased. FPC's share in the production amounts to 1200 barrels of crude per day.

## EDITORIAL

### Blunt Talk on Inflation

Arthur A. Smith, banker of Dallas, Texas, told U. S. Treasury officers and the American Bankers Ass'n conference at Chicago last month:

"We have gone quite a distance down inflation road, but we can go much further,—and likely will. We certainly are not going to return to the dollar any value taken out of it. No one now living will ever see the day when the dollar will again buy what it did in 1940. Today we have the cheapest dollar in our history. The forces to make it even cheaper are still potent. Credit is the chief inflationary source."

Apparently, no one took issue with Banker Smith's analysis of the situation. President Allan Kline of the American Farm Bureau told the bankers that there is a great deal of fraud in the idea that price controls will control inflation. He said they just make it more comfortable politically.

### NTEA Should Go Home

If the National Tax Equality Ass'n meant what it has been saying the past ten years, it would pack its bags and leave Washington for good, says Wallace J. Campbell of the Co-operative League of the USA.

The new tax law contains the Senate-House agreement to tax earnings or reserves of co-operatives not allocated to patrons. The great majority of farm co-operatives have been paying income tax on such money. The new law takes in the remainder. Thus any reason from a tax standpoint for the NTEA's campaign has been removed.

NTEA could devote its attention to some big loopholes in the tax laws. They weren't put there for co-operatives.

Nobody in Washington expects NTEA to go home. It will continue to try for some kind of legislation to eliminate competition from farm co-operatives. Even in the face of the 72 to 7 defeat sustained by NTEA in the United States Senate.

## Legislature Amends Law on Deer Hunting

DAN REED

At a one-day special session, October 23, the Michigan legislature approved unanimously and gave immediate effect to an amendment to the game law as asked by Governor Williams.

There was an effort made to prevent the use of rifles for all hunting in the southern part of the state, but it was ruled that the proposal was not covered by the Governor's message. At a special session, only subjects presented by the Governor may be considered by the legislature. The Governor's call listed only "Deer Hunting."

The new law provides: "That it shall be unlawful to use in hunting, pursuing, or killing any deer, any firearm except a shotgun with buckshot, ball or slug loads in the area south of a line beginning at a point on the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary line directly west of the west end of highway M-46; thence east to M-46 and east along M-46 to its junction with M-37; thence east and south along M-37 to Kent City; thence east along M-57 to its

junction with US-131; thence north along US-131 to its junction with M-46; thence east along M-46 to its junction with M-47; thence east and north along M-47 to Saginaw Bay; thence North 50 degrees east to the international boundary with Canada."

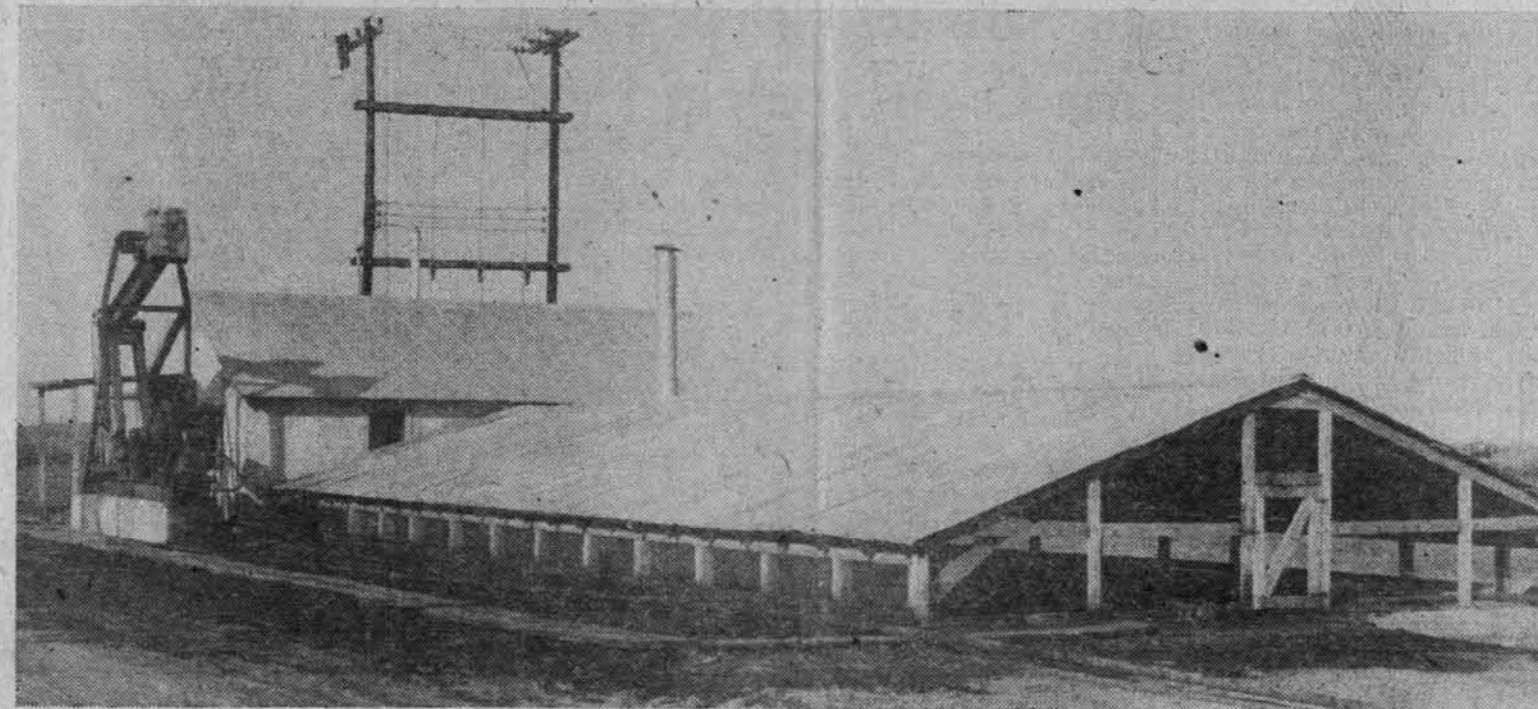
The legislature also acted to give the State supervisory control over the 11 private banks still remaining in Michigan.

An invitation was issued to General MacArthur to speak to a joint session of the legislature during the 1952 session.

## Buskirk At AFBF Meet On Nat'l Issues

Carl E. Buskirk, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, met with AFBF president and secretary and those of other midwest state Farm Bureaus in the Chicago AFBF office, October 15 and 16.

Allan Kline, AFBF president, and Roger Fleming, secretary-treasurer, discussed national issues. The state Farm Bureau presidents and secretaries gave consideration to taking up these same issues on the state levels and to general over-all activities of their organizations.



With some of the 136 oil wells producing on lower levels it is necessary to re-pressurize them by water flooding. This is a process of quite recent development and is proving very successful in certain types of production conditions. Here we see one of thirteen water wells which are being utilized on the newly acquired oil property. Beside the well in the taller building is the huge power plant which is pumping water to 13 input wells to maintain their under-ground pressure. The building wing in the foreground covers a large reservoir where water is processed before pumped back into the ground.

## Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

The 32nd annual meeting of the board of delegates of the Michigan Farm Bureau will be held at Fairchild Theatre, Michigan State College, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 8 and 9.

The meeting will be attended by 486 voting delegates and other members. Delegates will represent the membership of 47,786 families in 62 County Farm Bureaus. There is a voting delegate for every 100 members. All members of the Farm Bureau are invited to attend the convention.

National questions to be considered by the convention will be the organization's attitude on the Family Farm Policy Review of the U. S. Dep't of Agriculture, government spending and taxes, price and wage control legislation, manpower and selective service, attacks on farm co-operatives, and improvements in the national farm program.

STATE TOPICS of interest will include legislative reapportionment due in 1953, financial needs of county and local highways and source of the money, requests that opening date for hunting small game be moved from Oct. 15 to Nov. 1 in southern Michigan counties, strengthening of narcotics laws, laws regarding flour enrichment, migratory workers.

President Carl E. Buskirk will open the convention with the President's Address. C. L. Brody, executive secretary, will make his annual report and will discuss Farm Bureau policies. J. F. Yaeger, ass't executive secretary, will report on the work of the

farm supplies, petroleum and insurance companies.

SENATOR FERGUSON has accepted an invitation to speak at the annual dinner of the Farm Bureau Thursday evening, November 8.

MATT TRIGGS, ass't director of the Washington office of the American Farm Bureau, will speak Thursday afternoon on the Farm Bureau's part in national legislation.

RESOLUTIONS. MFB program and policy for 1952 will be determined in resolutions adopted at the annual meeting. The resolutions committee meets at Lansing Nov. 6 to complete its report in time for presentation to the convention Nov. 8.

ELECTION. The convention will elect seven members of the state board of 15 directors. Directors are elected for two years. The new board will elect a president and vice-president immediately after the convention.

CO-OPERATIVE. Commodity Conferences will be held Wednesday, Nov. 7 at the Union Memorial Building, second and third floors, for these groups: dairy, fruit and vegetables, poultry, livestock, and wool. Resolutions adopted at these conferences will be presented to the Farm Bureau resolutions committee.

WOMEN of the Farm Bureau will have their 7th annual meeting at the College Auditorium, Wednesday, Nov. 7, starting at 10 a. m. Some 1200 to 1500 women are expected. Speakers are: Mrs. G. Mennen Williams, and Mrs. Charles W. Sewell of Indiana, former director of the Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau.

JUNIOR Farm Bureau of Michigan will hold its annual convention at Fairchild Theatre Saturday, Nov. 3.

ROLL CALL conference for state and county people interested in membership campaign will be held at the Music Auditorium Wednesday evening, Nov. 7, starting at 7:30 p. m. Preparations will be discussed for the state-wide membership campaign the week of December 3.

Cows that freshened from November to February made 43 pounds more butterfat per year, \$35 more over feed costs than cows that freshened during June, July, or August. That's the finding of a recent survey in Illinois.

### Speakers at Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at MSC, Nov. 8-9



HON. HOMER FERGUSON  
United States Senate  
Thursday Evening



MATT TRIGGS  
American Farm Bureau  
Thursday Afternoon



CARL E. BUSKIRK  
President, Michigan Farm Bureau  
Thursday Morning



CLARK L. BRODY  
Secretary, Michigan Farm Bureau  
Thursday Morning

## Half Interest in 136 Wells in Illinois

### FPC's Share of Production Figured at 1200 Barrels Daily; Co-op Has 16 Wells in Michigan

The Farmers Petroleum Co-operative, representing 110 local co-operative associations and their farmer patrons, has purchased one-half interest in 136 oil wells located in a rich farming area of central Illinois, according to C. L. Brody, executive secretary.

Based on present production figures the oil co-operative's share in the purchase will be over 1200 barrels of crude oil a day.

The properties were bought from a large independent producer in Oklahoma, Mr. Brody said. The other half interest in the property is owned by one of the major oil companies.

The properties were purchased at a cost of nearly \$2,500,000. The volume of the monthly production of oil will amount to approximately \$75,000 net after paying direct operating cost, J. F. Yaeger, assistant executive secretary, pointed out. The crude oil is gathered into a common carrier pipeline and will be directed to some point in Michigan where it will be refined to FPC's specifications and distributed to Michigan farmers.

Farmers Petroleum Co-operative was organized a little over 3 years ago for the purpose of securing assured sources of supply of petroleum products for Michigan farmers. At the time of its organization it would have taken approximately 1500 barrels of crude oil per day to meet the existing requirements.

The Michigan oil co-operative now owns or controls nearly 1500 barrels of crude oil per day, but the required volume has increased substantially during the past 3 years.

Today it takes about 2800 barrels of crude oil per day for FPC requirements, according to Earl Huntley, general manager. The oil co-op now has direct control of more than 50% of its crude oil requirements.

"In the months ahead we will attempt to bring that percentage up to approximately 75% of our requirements. Then we plan to level off and maintain that position as nearly as possible," Mr. Huntley said.

Petroleum products today are absolutely essential for modern farming operations, Jack Yaeger said. Members and patrons of Farmers Petroleum Co-operative now own or control a three-year supply of crude oil assuming that it can be produced at the rate of present requirements, but naturally this is impossible. However, it is certain that by owning these substantial reserves FPC is in a very good position insofar as negotiating for additional supplies is concerned.

Mr. Huntley said for every dollar that farmers have invested in Farmers Petroleum Co-operative, Inc., either directly or through their co-operative associations, they have secured 4 barrels or 168 gallons of crude oil. Under today's modern refining processes the larger portion of this crude can be refined into heating oils or motor fuels for farmer use.

In addition to assuring a supply of top quality petroleum products for FPC's farmer patrons, the purchase of this property will provide an opportunity for additional and substantial savings. This is the largest single investment that has ever been made by a co-operative in Michigan. The program of co-operative petroleum warrants the consideration and support of all Michigan farmers.

## JFB Annual Meeting Set Nov. 3 at MSC

The sixteenth annual Michigan Junior Farm Bureau convention will be held Saturday, November 3, in Fairchild Theatre on the Michigan State College campus. Activities will begin at 10:00 a. m. with Sheldon Durham of Muskegon opening the convention.

Outstanding events of the morning will include President Dale Foster's address and a talk by Keith Tanner, Director of Field Services of the Michigan Farm Bureau. The afternoon program will include reports of all the state committees and the election of next year's Junior officers.

The evening banquet will be held at People's Church in East Lansing at 6 p. m. The Ionia "Wacky Trio" will furnish the entertainment. President Carl Buskirk will install the new Junior officers. Professor "Woody" Varner, outstanding speaker from Michigan State College will give the address of the evening.

The day's festivities will close with the annual party and square dance at Demonstration Hall on the Michigan State College campus.

All Junior Farm Bureau members and their friends are invited to attend. Tickets are available from your County Junior Farm Bureau secretary. The Juniors

## Blue Shield Liberalizes X-Ray Benefit

Twenty-six thousand Farm Bureau families having Michigan Hospital and surgical insurance will be interested in a new liberalization in X-ray benefits, now in effect.

Previously X-ray was limited to \$15 per member per year for all admissions to hospitals or outpatient service.

AFTER October 1 X-ray benefits are available up to a \$15 limit each time a member is hospitalized, or each time he suffers a separate disability not requiring hospital care that is covered under his Blue Shield contract.

The X-ray services may be rendered prior to hospitalization, or during it, provided they relate to the reason for admission to the hospital. There is no limit to the number of admissions or separate disabilities covered.

## Scrap

If you have iron or steel scrap that is just making a mess around your farm, you can help keep our steel mills busy by getting it to your scrap dealer. The national "Scrap-Harvest" is being held from October 15 to November 15. hope that many will take this opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones.





# 1700 County Leaders at District Pre-Roll Call Meetings

## Who Will Speak for Farmers?

**WESLEY S. HAWLEY**  
Allan Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, after a number of trips to Europe said, "There is an American way. It is different than anything else in the world. If we preserve our free institutions, Farm Bureau will have to help."

Agriculture is the bedrock of all civilization. Therefore, it is extremely important that it be sound and that it be able to operate in a free way to bring about an abundance for all. The only sound and sensible way to have a good agriculture is for farmers to manage it, and not bureaucrats at Washington.

What does this mean? Enough farm families must join together, think together, plan together, act together to be effective in speaking for agriculture. There is no other way. Joining Farm Bureau and working in it is much more than just paying dues. It is part of farming today—just as important as any other job on the farm.

In Farm Bureau one can carry full citizenship responsibilities. Some have said that they are taking government away from us. Not so, we are just plain giving it up, being too busy plowing and dragging and cooking and baking and griping, 16 hours a day.

Farmers, let's wake up. It is not too late. We can still avoid the mess that farmers in England find themselves in. One way to avoid these messes is to join and work hard in an organization like Farm Bureau.

Every time we ask the government to do something for us, we give up liberties and create more bureaucrats and a longer list of government payrollers.

### Ventilation

A good ventilation system is a necessity for the dairy farm, say Michigan State College agricultural engineers. Continuous breathing of damp, foul air lowers the vitality of cows and makes them more apt to pick up diseases.

### Red Fox

The red fox inhabits practically the whole northern hemisphere, and varies greatly in size and color in portions of his range.

## Notice to Membership And to Secretaries

Regarding delivery of Michigan Farm News: We shall appreciate postcard or other notice that any member is not receiving his paper. Please report any irregularity in delivery, such as duplicate copies, wrong RFD, error in name, etc. If member removes from RFD address in one county to RFD address in another county, please advise if change makes you a resident of second county. Place of residence determines which County Farm Bureau is your County Farm Bureau. We do our best to have everything right, but we are not infallible. We need and appreciate help.—Michigan Farm News.

## Community FB Leaders in Conferences

**DONALD D. KINSEY**  
During October and November workshop programs or conferences were held for Community Farm Bureau officers in 57 counties in Michigan.

**WORKSHOPS** have been conducted under the sponsorship of the Community Farm Bureau committees of the county organizations. Attendance on the part of the officers has been excellent. The officers invited to the workshops were the chairmen, vice-chairmen, secretaries and discussion leaders.

The aims have been to examine more closely why our Community Farm Bureaus are important. What can be done to strengthen our present groups and their programs?

How can the people aid in establishing new Community Farm Bureaus in their county? And what can we do to solve some of the present problems of leadership and attendance at group meetings?

**COUNTIES** are planning other leadership training programs for the near future to give the officers an opportunity to study methods of carrying out their duties as officers of their groups.

Only 40 cents of every dollar spent by homemakers for fruits and vegetables in 1949 finally got back to the farmers who grew them.

## Issues Prove Need for FB Membership

Seventeen hundred County Farm Bureau leaders attended a series of Michigan Farm Bureau membership district meetings on Farm Bureau issues. They were held Oct. 8 through Oct. 23.

The meetings were primarily for Roll Call captains and workers for the state-wide membership campaign the week of Dec. 3.

**DELBERT WELLS** and T. C. Peterson of the American Farm Bureau, and Jack Yaeger of the Michigan Farm Bureau each spoke at several meetings. They said that any one of a number of important issues before farmers speak for the need of a Farm Bureau organization of 1,500,000 farmers. Some of the issues:

**How Can We Avoid World War III?** Farmers need the Farm Bureau organization to present a nation-wide majority farm viewpoint and voting power on how we shall proceed with our defense program, farm production, manpower policies, and many other propositions that must be dealt with.

**Inflation.** It affects everybody, destroys savings. Farm Bureau has a program to combat it. Stop non-essential spending by government in the defense program, and for domestic purposes, is the first step.

**Who Shall Speak for Agriculture?** A matter of vital importance. It is necessary for farmers to have strong organizations of well informed people.

**Challenge of Big Government.** It becomes apparent in the increase of government controls proposed for agriculture and other groups. Farmers must assume responsibility for building and protecting a free choice agriculture.

### Septic Tank Safety

Use care in opening septic tanks for cleaning. Sometimes they contain toxic or inflammable gasses, and it's wise to stand clear of them for a few minutes after they have been opened, say M.S.C. agricultural engineers.

**Hens**  
Skim milk can be fed to laying hens. A gallon of milk a day should be enough for 100 hens.

## SETBACK FOR STALIN ...



## \$40 Millions In Scrap Iron On US Farms

There is an extra forty million dollars of income available to farmers. That is the approximate current value to the farmer of the 1,500,000 tons of scrap iron and steel estimated to be located on U. S. farms.

**COUPLED** with the value of this scrap is the urgent need for scrap to make steel. Steel is vital to our national economy. Much of this steel is being channeled to the military. Part of it is being allocated to manufacturers of farm equipment to assure us of a properly mechanized agriculture.

In order to avoid a slow-down in steel production it is necessary to utilize all of the available scrap. The National Production Authority has launched a nationwide drive to collect idle scrap. Farmers are included in this scrap collection program.

**SCRAP** is used to make new iron and steel products and helps keep production costs down. Since scrap is iron and steel that has already been refined the new refining process is shortened. Each ton of scrap used conserves approximately two tons of iron ore, one ton of coal and nearly one ton of limestone and other materials.

Unless enough scrap is obtained, steel production will drop. This means less steel for farm equipment. Scrap is needed immediately. Under normal conditions steel companies usually keep a sixty day supply of scrap on hand. But today many of these steel companies are operating on a day-to-day basis.

**SCRAP IS BEING** handled through local salvage dealers. Farmers wishing to sell their scrap should take it to their local dealer or call him if they are not able to haul the scrap into town.

With scrap prices high farmers can well afford to clean up around their yards and fields. The return will pay for the labor and still leave the farmer with extra cash.

## Plan Now For Spring Pig Crop

Since sows and gilts will have to be bred by November 15 to have pigs before March 10, there are some important jobs coming up soon for the hog raiser, according to H. W. Newland, Michigan State College swine authority.

"FIRST of all, if you have to buy a boar, you'll have to be looking for him soon. It won't pay to wait until the last minute because they may be scarce and prices probably will be no lower. Time and thought spent in selecting a good boar will pay dividends," Mr. Newland said.

Look over your sows or gilts, figure out their weak points, then buy a boar which will improve these weaknesses. Any boar should have straight legs, plenty of length and depth of body, with full, bulging hams. Masculinity, freedom from Bang's disease, and vaccination against cholera are other important points to watch.

**WHEN** picking either boars or gilts for your breeding herd, consider the size of the litter from which they came, and the weight at 56 days of age if that information is available. They should be out of litters of 10 to 12 pigs. Proper feeding of boars and gilts during the breeding season is important too. They should get a well-balanced, highly nutritious ration with a good supply of

protein, minerals and vitamins. If possible, they should be allowed to graze on good pasture. Tests have proven that having the animals in gaining condition during the breeding season will bring larger litters.

### Arthur L. Behning

Arthur L. Behning of Ossineke, Alpena county, former member of the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors for District 10, passed away last month. Mr. Behning was 55 and a lifelong resident of Sanborn township. He was active in community affairs, and one of the organizers of Alpena County Farm Bureau. He was elected state director from District 10 in November, 1949 and served two years. Mr. Behning was overseas with the 85th Division in World War I. Before becoming a dairy farmer he taught school four years. At the time of his death he was chairman of the board of supervisors. Mrs. Behning died suddenly last April. Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Frank McCourt, two grandchildren, a sister and two brothers.

## Time Savers For Kitchen

**HAVE A DESK,** or a writing surface and drawer, in or near the kitchen. Then you can sit down to do the thinking and paper work for your job. Tie a pencil here with a string so it won't wander. This is also a good place for the telephone and a pencil sharpener.

Keep a good supply of rubber bands in the kitchen for wrapping jobs, such as for items wrapped with waxed paper. You'll want a pair of kitchen shears to cut parsley, chives, and paper. Wet them for cutting dates, figs, and marshmallows.

**CLEAN** vegetables on a paper. Then when you're finished, roll up the paper with the parings inside and throw the whole thing into the garbage container.

A pair of inexpensive tongs is wonderful for any number of kitchen jobs—such as taking things out of the back of the oven, turning potatoes while they bake, and so on.

**LEFTOVERS,** like stewed fruits and some kinds of salads, will keep in the refrigerator in

the same container in which they were served. Exception to this procedure is woodenware.

Don't pour fat down the sink. Instead, pour it into an empty coffee can with a tight cover for future use. Or—if you don't need the extra fat—let it stand until hardened and scrape it into a garbage container.

**HAVE** an extra key for every lock in the house. It may avoid a great deal of inconvenience.

## Price Rise for Eggs is Seasonal

The recent upward movement in egg prices is a seasonal movement according to Henry Larzelere of the Michigan State College agricultural economics department. There's a natural decrease in egg production in the late summer and fall. Egg consumption remains about the same throughout the year.

Mr. Larzelere also reports that the number of hens and pullets of laying age on farms is the largest reported in several years. Lower prices may start in December, 1951.

You can save your concrete silo walls from the eating action of silage acids by giving them a protective coating.

## Bears

Bears are rather solitary, the wandering about alone, the females accompanied by cubs as big as themselves.

It's a good idea to feed growing pullets all the grain they will eat along with their mash. That will build up their body weight for the laying job ahead.

## HOW to do it ...



## WITH CONCRETE

While you're improving your farm for greater production, do the job for keeps, with concrete! Here's a "how to do it" book that will help you build such essential structures as:

- Barn Floors
- Feeding Floors
- Walks, Runways
- Foundations
- Concrete Masonry
- Construction
- Cisterns
- Watering Tanks
- Septic Tanks
- Home Improvements
- Manure Pits
- Trench Silos
- Hog Wallows
- Soil-Saving Dams

Remember, concrete is fireproof, termite-proof, easy to work with, low in first cost, needs little upkeep, endures for generations.

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Please send me "Handbook of Concrete Construction." I am especially interested in \_\_\_\_\_

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You are either carrying your own life insurance and paying for it in worry, frustration, fear, sacrifice, and future hardship,

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You are carrying it in a sound life insurance company and paying for it in small amounts of money.

Yes, Mr. Farmer, you don't make your own machinery, or fill your own teeth, or dig your own coal, or make your own fertilizer!

So isn't it about time to get out of the life insurance business?

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of MICHIGAN

**A Farm Bureau Insurance Service**  
507 South Grand Ave. Lansing, Michigan

# WINTER AUTO NEEDS

## FOR SAFE DRIVING IN BAD WEATHER

### You Can Always Depend On CO-OP SUPPLIES

Bad weather is just ahead of us and now is the time to prepare for safe, dependable winter driving. Have your CO-OP oil service man check over your equipment. He will make recommendations for "winter-proofing" your car, truck or tractor. These Co-op and Unico products are tailor made to meet farm requirements. They are built of highest quality materials and workmanship to give longer service at lower cost.

**UNICO EXTRA TRACTION TIRES**  
The large "knobby" buttons on these passenger and truck tires give you the extra gripping power you will need this winter in mud, snow, gumbo or clay without the bother of putting on chains.

**METHANOL or PERMANENT ANTI-FREEZE**  
To protect the cooling system of your vehicles, we have either Unico Methanol or Permanent Anti-freeze. The methanol-type contains a rust inhibitor and an evaporation retardant and is economically priced. The permanent-type is a superior ethylene glycol anti-freeze which will not boil away. One fill lasts all winter.

**BUREAU PREMIUM MOTOR OIL**  
Avoid hard winter starting by using Unico Bureau Premium or Regular motor oils available in winter grades. They are your guarantee of good lubrication.

**CO-OP BATTERIES & SPARK PLUGS**  
For dependable service and plenty of power for cold weather starts, the Co-op battery is unsurpassed. Co-op spark plugs are engineered to deliver the hottest spark on the coldest days.

**CO-OP GASOLINE & FUEL OILS**  
With all of the above items, you'll want to keep that car, truck or tractor at peak efficiency with Co-op gasoline. It's made to give you all-weather service at lowest costs. If you haven't stocked up your winter's fuel oil, we suggest that you get your order in today. We can save you money.

See Your Local Co-op Oil Dealer Today For Information And Prices  
**FARMERS' PETROLEUM CO-OP, INC.**  
221 North Cedar Street Phone 2-1271 Lansing 4, Michigan

# Farm Bureau Offers 2 New MSC Corn Hybrids for 1952

## Seed Analyst Personality of Week in Lansing



Courtesy Lansing State Journal

MRS. MABEL CANBERG (right) seed analyst for Farm Bureau Services Seed Dept. at Lansing, shows her daughter, Mary, the first step in determining the quality of field seeds offered the Farm Bureau Services. A weighed sample is spread upon the counting table for examination under a powerful glass. Weed seeds and other crop seeds are identified and separated from the main lot, together with any other material. The amounts of June Clover, for example, weed seeds, other crop seeds, and inert matter are reported in percentages.

As King Midas sat and counted his gold pieces with great relish, so Mrs. Mabel Canberg sits and counts seeds.

"I revel in it. I love it," she told Mrs. Marion Braeger, who wrote a Personality of the Week article on Mrs. Canberg for the Women's Section of The State Journal at Lansing recently.

We quote from Mrs. Braeger's article:

MRS. CANBERG uses a seven-power magnifying glass to analyze field seeds for farmers and

the Farm Bureau Services seed department.

What might seem tiresome to some people is imaginative and satisfying to Mrs. Canberg, a short, slender woman who gets so enthusiastic when she talks about her work that she stands up most of the time.

WHEN a farmer wants to know how much money he can get for a crop of seeds, he must first know the purity of a crop of June clover, for example.

A representative sample of the

seed is obtained. Mrs. Canberg counts it to find out what percentage is June clover, for example, and what foreign elements are mixed in. She recognizes many kinds of weed seeds.

A final and most important test for quality is the germination test, which is also made by Mrs. Canberg.

"SOME PEOPLE would find this tremendously boring," she said, "but I love detail. I like sewing for the same reason. You learn to know seeds just as you

do the keys of a typewriter. See this catnip seed—that's one of my favorites."

Through the glass a little black seed with two white eyes peered up. "They're cute little things, aren't they?"

"I also like seeds because I like color, and they are all so varied. For instance, Russian pigweed—aren't they pretty—they have a satin luster."

RUSSIAN pigweed, just for the books, grows in Canada with the alfalfa crop. Though Michigan farmers have sown hundreds of thousands of pounds of Canadian alfalfa, the pigweed has never infiltrated here.

In answer to an amazed question about the 100 seeds in each of many germinating dishes, "Do you count out all those seeds, too?"

Mrs. Canberg replied, "Just don't feel too sorry for me. We do have a seed counting machine."

The ultimate aim of the Farm Bureau's and Mrs. Canberg's work is pure seed.

EDITOR'S NOTE—We view the Farm Bureau Services seed department laboratory as a combination of sentry and special information services for the seed purchasing, cleaning and marketing operations.

As a sentry, it requires every offering of seeds to reveal purity and germination information, together with complete information regarding weed seeds and other crop seeds that may be present. This provides the seed purchasing and cleaning divisions with the facts upon which to base decisions. The laboratory's final statement on the Seed Analysis Tag is the foundation for the guarantee of vitality, description, origin and purity of Farm Bureau Brand seeds.

## Full Feeding Quickest Not Always Cheapest

Full feeding of grain is the quickest way to get a steer to market but it isn't necessarily the cheapest or the most profitable.

Plain cattle should be fed longer and more cheaply than well-bred steers of good type, according to G. A. Branaman of Mich-

igan State College.

Corn silage full-fed along with protein supplement may replace all the grain for plain steers when fed a longer time. Yearling steers usually are fed from 4 to 7 months, depending on their grade and quality, and the amount of grain fed. Calves require a longer time to fatten and 2-year-olds a shorter time.

Wintering calves on roughage, then pasturing for part or all of

the summer without grain results in cheap gains.

Under present cattle and feed prices it is possible to pasture cattle for two summers feeding roughage in the winter. These animals may be grain fed for a short time or sold as grass-fat cattle. "Such cattle should weigh from 1150 to 1300 pounds and are not popular on the market unless choice to prime in finish," Branaman said.

## High Production To Determine Success in 1952

High farm production will be the key to success in 1952, Michigan State College agricultural economists predict.

COSTS of operation will be higher, especially for labor, machinery and feed, but the economists feel the best way to beat higher costs is through greater production and efficiency.

Increased production can be obtained by use of more legumes in the rotation, using more commercial fertilizer or by tilling heavy land which is poorly drained but which can be made highly productive.

ANOTHER method of increasing production will be through expanding the livestock program. Continued high demand for livestock products will keep prices high. Through utilization of roughage—pasture, hay and silage—more economical gains that require less labor can be attained. A minimum of 25 percent of the crop land in legumes will help maintain soil fertility and provide more roughages for livestock.

The year of 1952 will be a good time to reduce the mortgaged debt. Farmers who do will be in a better position to weather out any period of financial reverses, if one should occur. "A productive farm, free of debt, is one of the best investments you can have," M.S.C. economists say.

### Turkeys

Farmers in the U. S. are raising a record crop of 52,774,000 turkeys this year—13 percent more than last year, according to a preliminary estimate reported by Michigan State College authorities.

### Accidents

Many farm workers who now have only one hand trace the loss of the other to a corn picker accident. Cleaning out rollers or attempting to work around the picker with the power on is dangerous.



## They Represent 20 Years of Selection

Two new hybrids developed at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station by the corn breeding research staff of Michigan State College are available to Michigan farmers for spring planting, according to Richard Schantz, assistant manager of Farm Bureau Services' seed department.

The two promising hybrids are called Michigan 250 and Michigan 350. Their development covers a period of about 20 years of inbreeding, selection and testing by MSC research men.

Because of their superior performance in over-state tests during past years, they have been accepted by the Michigan Crop Investment Association for certification. Commercial double-cross seed of the two varieties was produced for the first time this year.

Indications point to very heavy demands for these new hybrids for next spring planting. It would be wise for farmers desiring these varieties to book them early, Mr. Schantz warned.

MICHIGAN 350 is about the same maturity as hybrids which are classified as 90-day corns. It silks a few days later than Michigan 51B a certified hybrid well-known to Michigan growers, but at harvest time is as dry or drier than 51B. Tests have shown it to be well adapted to northern and north central Michigan areas, Mr. Schantz said.

However, it has also performed exceptionally well in areas where later hybrids are grown. In muck farm tests, it has proved well suited for grain production on muck soils in south central and southern Michigan.

Michigan 350 outyielded 51B by more than 13 percent over a three-year period, picks clean and has good resistance to root and stalk lodging.

MICHIGAN 250 has a relative maturity of about 85 days and is adapted to corn growing areas in northern Michigan and extreme east central Michigan. In three years of testing, Michigan 250 has proved a good producer of grain. It has outyielded Michigan 11A in 27 of 34 tests in which the two were compared.

Farmers interested in obtaining seed of either, or both, of these hybrids should talk with their local co-op elevator manager or Farm Bureau seed dealer.

Apply lime and phosphate during slack periods to help ease the rush of doing this job at other busy seasons.

## Kline Speaks Need of Times At Lansing



ALLAN KLINE

Allan Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau, spoke in Lansing Oct. 26 at meetings of the Rotary Club and the Michigan Feed Dealers Ass'n.

"We want to promote the American way of life," said Mr. Kline. "Too many of our domestic matters are now being decided on the basis of our international considerations."

"THERE IS grave danger of our nation being operated entirely from Washington. If we are to prevent it, we must take part in an intelligent management of public affairs. We must realize that control of appropriations is more important than control of taxes. We must select and elect men of understanding and ability to serve as public officials. People need to think more for themselves in these times."

## Regular Care Required For Laying Flocks

A definite work schedule for handling laying flocks should be put into effect as soon as pullets start to lay if you want to improve chances of success, according to MSC poultry specialists.

Pullets that have been bred to lay and have been reared properly are a poultry-man's assurance of making money. These pullets must be fed heavily, brought into heavy production and kept in production. It's the poultryman's job to eliminate conditions that cause production slumps. And regularity in care and management is one of the secrets of success.

On egg gathering, they suggest a 10-12-4 program for gathering eggs three times a day. Two collections are recommended in the morning around ten o'clock and around noon, because most eggs are laid in the morning. Another collection about 4 in the afternoon will take care of most of the afternoon-laid eggs.

Other recommendations include use of a wire basket to gather the eggs; let the eggs cool to 45 or 55 degrees. Feeders and waterers should be checked each time you visit the laying house. Automatic waterers should be cleaned and scrubbed at least once a week. Clean water in sanitary waterers increases water consumption, which affects egg production.

Alert poultrymen also check nests once a week, making certain there is enough clean, absorbent material to keep the eggs clean. Another weekly job is examining birds for lice. Lice are chewing insects and can be one of the factors causing egg production to go down.

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