

Michigan Farm News

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Michigan Farm Bureau

OFFICERS
President... C. E. Buskirk, Paw Paw
V. Pres... W. Wightman, Fennville
Exec. Secy... C. L. Brody, Lansing



Christmas
We try to keep Christmas as Christmas
The birthday of Jesus, our Lord;
The glad anniversary season

I don't mean we keep it with fasting.
I don't mean we're solemn and glum.
He came to bring peace to God's children

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

Machinery Open House at Mt. Pleasant, Jan. 24

Officers and members of County Farm Bureaus are invited to attend the grand opening celebration of the new Farm Bureau Services farm equipment retail branch at Mt. Pleasant, Thursday, January 24.

Mt. Pleasant Co-operative Elevator Company is holding its annual "Co-op Day" in conjunction with the grand opening of the new Farm Bureau farm machinery branch.

J. F. Yaeger, general manager of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., and A. M. Warren, general sales manager of National Farm Machinery Co-operative, Inc., will be the principal speakers.

The Farmer's investment in farm machinery and equipment on high producing farms today equals approximately the value of his land.

Up-keep and replacement costs of farm equipment is one of his larger annual expenditures.

With nearly six million farmers depending on only a few manufacturers for power equipment, the development of a co-operative farm equipment manufacturing program is of vital importance.



J. F. YAEGER

The successful operation of a farm machinery manufacturing program requires the support of every farmer.

Michigan farmers have joined with farmers from all over the United States in developing a machinery program.



last longer, cost less!

Look at these advantages of Kalamazoo Glazed Tile Building Tile—the ideal material for storage buildings and dairy barns.

- Permanent weather proof walls.
Highest moisture resistance.
Great rigidity and load-bearing strength.

Investigate Kalamazoo Glazed Building Tile for your storage buildings, barns, milk house, hog or poultry house... you'll be way ahead.

Kalamazoo TANK & SILO CO.
152 HARRISON ST., KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Not Getting News?

If you know of members failing to receive their Michigan Farm News, please send us a postcard giving name, postoffice and RFD number together with name of County Farm Bureau.

Community Farm Bureau Activities

STAR AWARDS
October
Gold Star—Shelby Community Farm Bureau, Oceana County, Mrs. Fred Kerr, Secretary.

MRS. MARJORIE GARDNER
Dear Community Farm Bureau Members:
Listed above are the star award winners for October and November.

COMMUNITY groups number 1046. To date 1046 set-up sheets have been received from Community Farm Bureau groups giving us their new officers for the next twelve months.

The Monday, January 28 "Dairy Day" program is about as usual, with the general session for dairymen in the morning and breed association meetings in the afternoon and evening.

Tuesday through Thursday, January 29 through 31 the morning dairy programs will be held in the East Concourse beneath Macklin Field Stadium.

Afternoon programs will be at the new dairy housing research and demonstration center on the college farm, a mile south of the main campus on Forest and College roads.

Save Butterfat
Michigan State college dairy specialists have made a suggestion that can mean dollars and cents savings for the state's dairymen.

Machinery Repairs
Machinery that is repaired during the slack season is not so apt to be laid up for repairs during rush seasons, remind Michigan State College extension specialists.

Get your fertilizer early.

New Idea Grows Corn On Worn Out Soils

The discovery of a method of growing big crops of corn on worn out land was described to the American Farm Bureau at its annual meeting by Dr. George D. Scarseth, director of the American Farm Research Assn.

THE METHOD discards the usual tillage tools, and leaves the trash of the previous crop on the field.



GEORGE D. SCARSETH

The first experiment on an Indiana farm this year produced 125.5 bushels to the acre.

The way most of the 85,000-000 acres of land planted to corn is handled with regard to erosion and destruction of organic matter and natural fertility, the corn soils of the nation will be gradually destroyed.

"A WAY must be found to grow corn at the most profit with high yields and in such a way that the soil is improved, not hurt, by the process.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AGENTS WANTED
NEED EXTRA money? Show your friends Wonderful Regal line of All-Occasion Greeting Cards.

WOMEN
FREE NEW TREASURE Book of sewing ideas. New styles, latest patterns. Fully illustrated, complete directions on how to sew and save with practical cotton bags.

LIVESTOCK
MILKING SHORTHORNS—Dark red yearling and bull calves up to 11 months, sized by 1951 Grand Champion, Michigan State Fair, HOLLAND.

SILO ROOFS
NOW IS the time to get an Aluminum Dome Silo Roof for your silo.

EDITORIAL

Continued from Page 1
the economic productivity of foreign nations were emphasized.

Horse and Buggy Not So Safe

Bobbin had a poor safety record compared with modern travel by high powered automobiles.
In 1909 we had some 26 million horses and mules. During that year 3,850 persons were killed in accidents involving horses and horse-drawn vehicles.

Farmers Need Organization

Farmers are finding themselves squeezed by increasing costs of farming while their income from the things they have to sell is declining.

"Farming is dangerously exposed if the economic wind blows from the wrong direction," a banker said recently.

There never was a time when farmers need to stick together more than today. Through their co-operatives and farm organizations they can exercise some control over the "economic wind."

On July 6, additional nitrogen at the rate of 200 pounds an acre of ammonium nitrate were side dressed at five inches deep on one side of the corn row, and approximately twelve inches away from the plant.

"THE COST of the fertilizer amounted to about \$46 an acre. This was highly profitable because one-half of the fertilizer is carried over as plant food and organic matter residue from the stalks and weeds for the next season.

"In addition to the fertilizer costs, there was a \$38 an acre cost for operation and overhead. Yet at \$1.50 a bushel of corn, the net profit was \$103 an acre.

"WE KNOW that weeds hurt corn by competition for plant food nutrients, especially nitrogen. This can be corrected by the scientific use of commercial nitrogen, balanced with adequate phosphate and potash.

"Weeds also hurt corn by shading it. This can be controlled by knocking the weeds down, but not killing them and thickening the corn stand and increasing its rate of growth with plant nutrients so as to cause the corn to shade out the weeds."

"Only a seedbed is prepared for the corn, a narrow strip two or three inches wide. The trash of the previous crop is left on the ground to protect the soil.

DR. SCARSETH said that since plowing exposes the soil to erosion, a special machine was designed for the International Harvester Company to plant the corn without plowing.

On 43 acres 7 miles west of Lafayette, Ind., the treatment consisted of applying at the time of the planting of the seed 800 pounds of high-analysis fertilizer in a band nine inches deep under the seed row, and 300 pounds an acre of the fertilizer is a split band at the side of the seed.

"THIS WAS done with the new machine drawn by a tractor in one operation and in the old corn stalk stubble. The corn was not cultivated for four weeks. By then the weeds were waist high but the corn was thriving and didn't even know the weeds were there."

"Two cultivations with a disk-like affair were used to knock the weeds down," Dr. Scarseth

Concentrate spraying gaining favor with Michigan farmers

Using a stronger spray solution and applying correspondingly less of it per tree shows advantages in spraying fruit crops.

Concentrate spraying reduces spray injury to fruit and foliage, cuts amount of spray chemicals lost by run-off, reduces the water needed and time required for refilling.

Michigan Bell Telephone Company



New telephone truck is "jack of all trades" Michigan Bell has recently put into service a truck that can dig a hole in the ground, hoist and set a 35-foot telephone pole, pull up old wire, haul tools and materials and do a lot of other work, with a 2-man crew.

SOIL-CEMENT today's biggest value for light-traffic roads

SOIL-CEMENT makes taxpayers' dollars go farther because about 90 per cent of the required material is usually native soil on the site.

The first soil-cement road, built in 1935, is still giving excellent service. Soil-cement's superior value and durability for light-traffic paving is thoroughly demonstrated and established by thousands of miles of such pavement now in use.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

Olds Tower Bldg., Lansing 8, Mich.

A national organization to improve and extend the use of portland cement and concrete... through scientific research and engineering field work.



PROTECTION! MADE TO ORDER!
The weasel would be a sight easier to kill if his coat didn't turn white when the snow flies.

State Mutual FIRE INSURANCE CO.
702 Church St. Flint 3, Michigan
W. V. BURRAS, President H. K. FISK, Secretary

"State Mutual insures Every Fifth Farm in Michigan—Ask Your Neighbors"

Annual Report of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.

Fuel Sales Exceed 23,000,000 Gallons

EARL HUNTLEY, Manager
Report to Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Annual Meeting at Michigan State College, December 19, 1951

It was a great year for the co-operative petroleum program in Michigan. The dollar volume of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative was about \$3,750,000. This is an increase of 22% over the previous year, and is three times larger than it was in 1946.

Liquid fuels make up the major portion of our volume, which reached an all-time high of more than 23,000,000 gallons. We had an increase of 16% over the previous year.

Motor oil volume was down from 226,000 gallons to 207,000 gallons at the wholesale level. One reason for this is reduction of inventories at the local associations and the well known fact that modern tractors are not using the amount of oil per gallon of gasoline that was used by the old timers.

Nevertheless, there are too many of our patrons who are not familiar with our lube oil program. I make this statement in all sincerity because any farmer who has a complete understanding of the over-all petroleum program must on the basis of sound judgment be a one hundred percenter.

Grease volume totaled over 200,000 pounds. This represents a small increase over the year before. Progress in the tire, battery and miscellaneous program is covered in this report by Claude Rasey who has direct charge of that department.

THE PERSONNEL you have engaged to operate your cooperative is very quality minded. Those of us in petroleum maintain a very close check on quality, not only of the products we are supplying but also what is being offered by the industry. The program which we maintain takes considerable money and time but based on actual laboratory checks which we have had during the year, the quality of the fuels and lubricants which are being supplied by your petroleum cooperative rate as No. 1.

SPECIFICATIONS on these materials fluctuate, I don't wish to imply that we are always at the top, but over the year we were up there more than any other supplier. The first responsibility of every employee in this cooperative petroleum program is to supply the co-op member and patron with a quality product and adequate service at the lowest possible final cost. In my opinion, they are doing a good job.

WE MUST not forget that the growth of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative is the result of additional activities around the local associations. It is through the efforts of the people who are out on the firing line that the program will continue to improve and expand.

In line with the increase in volume enjoyed by Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, most of the local associations had a very successful year with substantial gains in volume and margins accordingly.

EIGHT of the local associations delivered over 1,000,000 gallons of liquid fuels during the year. Berrien County Farm Bureau Oil Company was No. 1 in liquid fuels with over 2,500,000 gallons. Washtenaw Farmers Oil Company was in second place with very close to 2,000,000 gallons. Many of the locals materially increased their volume.

One of the most important reasons for organizing Farmers Petroleum Co-operative as a separate corporation was to gain flexibility in seeking an assured source of supply. During the year a milestone has been passed in this connection.

IN DECEMBER of 1950, 18 producing oil wells were purchased by FPC. The wells are located in Roscommon and Gladwin counties.

Tires and Battery Business Increases

CLAUDE RASEY, Manager
This department of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative showed a marked increase this year over last due to the fact that more of the local outlets participated fully in the program.

TIRE AND TUBE VOLUME has been continuing to grow even though the "scare buying" after the start of the Korean conflict has worn off. Hamilton Farm Bureau led the way with purchases of 405 tires. Farmers Elevator of Hudsonville was next with 335 tires. Unico Service Station of Allegan purchased 243. We moved 1,000 more tires than during the same period last year.

Our battery volume has held firm with a 10% increase over last year. Hamilton and Hudsonville tied for the year in purchases of batteries, each with 211. Unico Service Station of Allegan purchased 98. As you will note these three outlets run one, two and three in tires and batteries.

Lead at the present time is in short supply, but our supplier, National Cooperatives, Inc., has been able to make immediate shipments so far.

WE HAD A 40% INCREASE in volume over last year in the miscellaneous department. This takes in a number of items including bulk plant equipment, truck tanks, farm tanks, spark plugs, grease guns, gas pumps, etc.

Farmers' Money Secures Supply of Crude Oil



FARMERS Petroleum Co-operative, Inc. took its first major step this year towards fulfilling the purpose for which it was organized. The oil co-operative at the beginning of the year purchased eighteen producing oil wells located in Gladwin and Roscommon counties at a cost of nearly a half million dollars. This fall FPC purchased a one-half interest in 136 producing wells located in Illinois at a cost of 2½ million dollars. This put the company in position of owning or controlling approximately 60 per cent of its crude oil requirements.

J. F. YAEGER, assistant executive secretary of FPC, handing a check in the amount of 2 million dollars to Forrest H. Lindsey, manager of the National Associated Petroleum Co., in settlement of the purchase. Watching the transaction which took place in the conference room of the First National Bank in Chicago are, on the left: Ward Hodge of Snover, president of FPC; and, on the right, Dr. Hutzler Metger, president of the St. Paul Bank for Co-operatives.

FOR YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31 FPC Paid \$92,000 in Dividends

Farmers Petroleum Co-operative, Inc., paid investors and stockholder patrons dividends totaling \$92,000 for the year ending August 31, 1951.

FPC paid a dividend of 5% on its class A common stock, \$22,000 was distributed last month to 1854 investors. They are farmers, co-operative oil companies, co-operative farm supply companies, and other dealers.

FPC PAID a patronage dividend of 2% to stockholder patrons. A total of \$70,000 was distributed in December.

Any patron purchasing CO-OP petroleum products may become a stockholder in Farmers Petroleum Co-operative and thus become eligible for patronage refunds as earned. If interested, tell your local tank wagon driver that you would like to become a stockholder in FPC.

The procedure is the purchase of \$50 or more of class A common stock of FPC and one share of class C common voting stock at \$1. The stock is sold only on the basis of the information contained in the stock prospectus and by a licensed salesman.

FPC was organized under Farm Bureau leadership May 12, 1948 to assure Michigan farmers

an adequate supply of petroleum products from their co-operatives.

FOR SEVERAL years after World War II there were great shortages of gasoline and fuel oil. Farm co-operatives found it impossible to secure their full requirements. They decided that they should begin to acquire their own sources of crude oil.

In Michigan 47 co-op petroleum dealers and 1500 farmers subscribed \$400,000 to start Farmers Petroleum Co-operative. The new company began by buying the petroleum business and petroleum distribution facilities of Farm Bureau Services, Inc. FPC started business January 1, 1949.

THE BUSINESS has shown a substantial increase each year. Today half of the crude oil needed by FPC comes from wells it owns. The company looks forward to owning producing wells to supply 75% or more of the crude oil required for the business.

The volume of FPC's gasoline and fuel oil business calls for 2800 barrels of crude oil daily. The Co-operative gets about 1200 barrels daily from its half-interest in 136 wells in Illinois. Another 200 barrels daily comes from 18 wells it owns in Midland and Roscommon counties in Michigan.

THE PERSONNEL you have engaged to operate your cooperative is very quality minded. Those of us in petroleum maintain a very close check on quality, not only of the products we are supplying but also what is being offered by the industry.

SPECIFICATIONS on these materials fluctuate, I don't wish to imply that we are always at the top, but over the year we were up there more than any other supplier.

WE MUST not forget that the growth of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative is the result of additional activities around the local associations.

Field Promotion, Sales and Credit

JEDDIE STALEY, Manager

The fiscal year just completed was another successful one in the growth of the Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.

At the close of the fiscal year, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative was supervising the operations of five associations under management contract agreement. The five associations under supervision of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative distributed to farmer patrons a total volume of 5,099,718 gallons compared to 4,179,942 gallons the year before. This is an increase of 919,776 gallons or a 22% average increase per association.

Marshall Farm Bureau Oil Company, located in Calhoun County, made the largest saving for its farmer patrons. They have a four-truck operation with each truck distributing an average of 334,849 gallons. Their total dollar volume was \$284,500.46 for the year and made a saving of \$13,914.51 for farmer patrons, which is 4.9%.

WITH THE increase in volume, we have increased facilities at the bulk plants. Some of the major changes are:

1. The 800 gallon delivery tanks have been replaced by 1,000 gallon tanks.
2. New trucks have been put in operation where volume warranted it.
3. Dual meter system has been installed in all trucks at Marshall Farm Bureau Oil Company. Financially, the bulk plants have experienced one of their better years in volume and net margins.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE present the most serious problem we have today. We do not have the capital necessary to finance a large accounts receivable. It is very difficult for a manager or tank wagon serviceman to go to one of the owners of the association and say "You can no longer have credit."

Extended credit will damage the buying power of the cooperative, taking away the advantages that otherwise they might receive. It behooves all of us, employees, stockholders and patrons to understand why we can't carry extended accounts receivable and to pass the reasons on to our neighbor.

FIELD PROMOTION is a new department put into operation this past fiscal year. It had a very successful one. The objective of this department is to increase the volume of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., by doing promotional work around already established bulk plants, and the establishing of new distribution points.

Four new distribution points were constructed and put into operation this past fiscal year. They are:

1. Middleton Farmers Elevator Co.
2. Caro Farmers Cooperative Elevator Co.
3. Eaton Farm Bureau Co-op, Inc.
4. Moline Cooperative Milling Co.

SOME of the promotional work which followed the construction of the bulk plants was carried on by individual contact with the patrons in the immediate trading area.

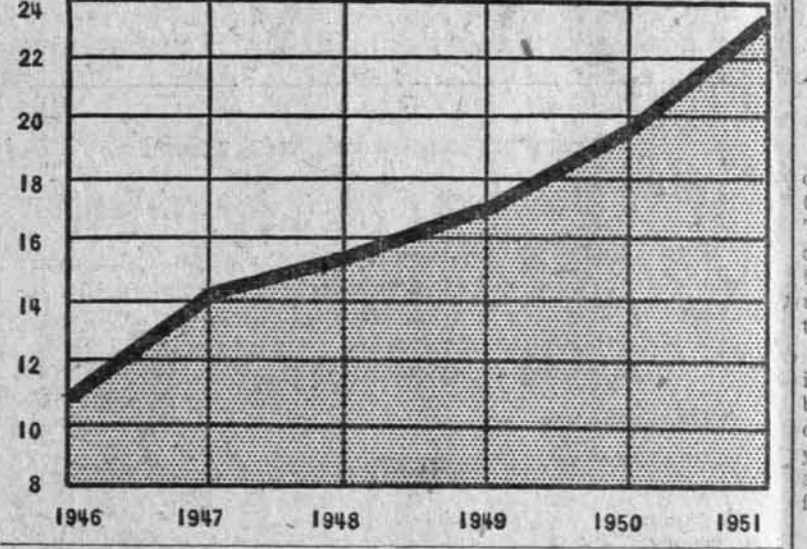
PROMOTIONAL work around already established bulk plants has met with much success the managers report. The work is carried on by meeting with the community groups in the particular county and also by conducting district meetings throughout the trading area. We are looking forward to doing some promotional work the coming year in counties where they do not have a cooperative petroleum program.

Michigan State College extension horticulturists recommend protecting young fruit trees from damage by mice by spreading poison bait in early winter.

Nearly half of all the eggs produced in the world are laid by hens in the United States. For the last 6 years, the average American has been eating eggs at the rate of more than one a day.

Buy Farm Bureau Seeds.

Growth in Liquid Fuel Volume



Today this organization is operating three 7,800 gallon transports, one 9,000 gallon transport and one 10,000 gallon transport. These trucks are kept running 24 hours a day and are assisted by two 4,500 gallon transports which are used only when it is deemed necessary through some unforeseen incident.

Ralph Miller has done an excellent job in keeping this equipment rolling and in first class condition.

THE DRIVING personnel is headed by John Jansen and Jim Fox whom we are very proud to have had in our organization for such a long period of time.

Transport Fleet Moves Liquid Fuels

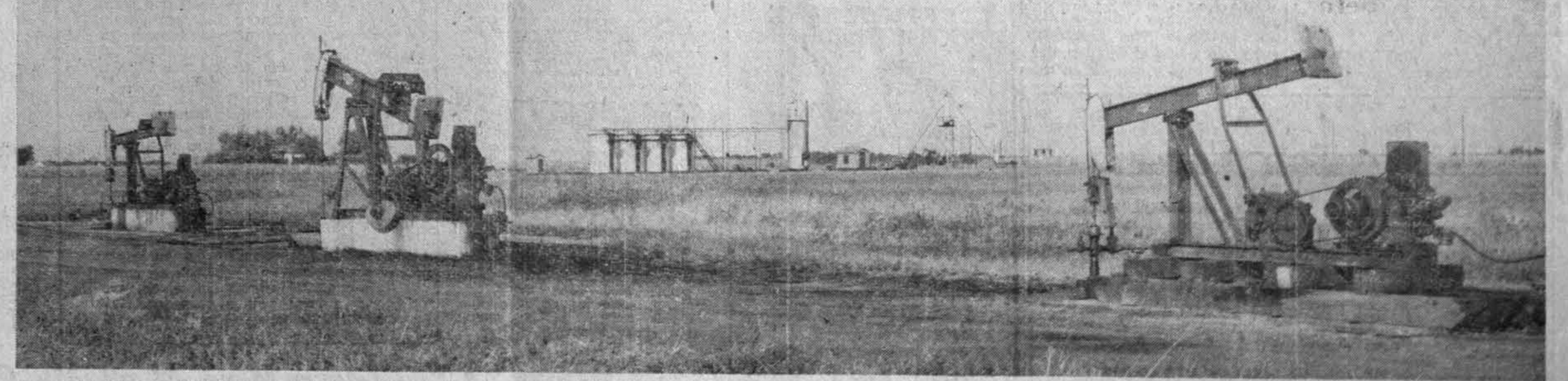
ROBERT BRUEGGER, Manager
With the increase in volume of sales, your Farmers Petroleum Cooperative is realizing today the Transportation Department has done a remarkable job in keeping the liquid fuels moving from the refineries to the local associations.

This has been done with a minimum freight rate which has not been increased despite the rising costs of operation. This past year the transport fleet handled approximately 95% of the liquid fuel volume.

THROUGH allocations, shortages, etc., the order and billing department with the excellent cooperation of the locals has completed a very successful year. This is the first year in which the billing, etc., was handled by this office and a record of 6,300 orders were processed during the 12 months.

It has proved to be a very efficient operation and a great deal of the credit can go to the two responsible employees, Edith Sangree and Opal Radford. We are all hoping that in the future months we can improve and make the coming year more of a success than any we have enjoyed.

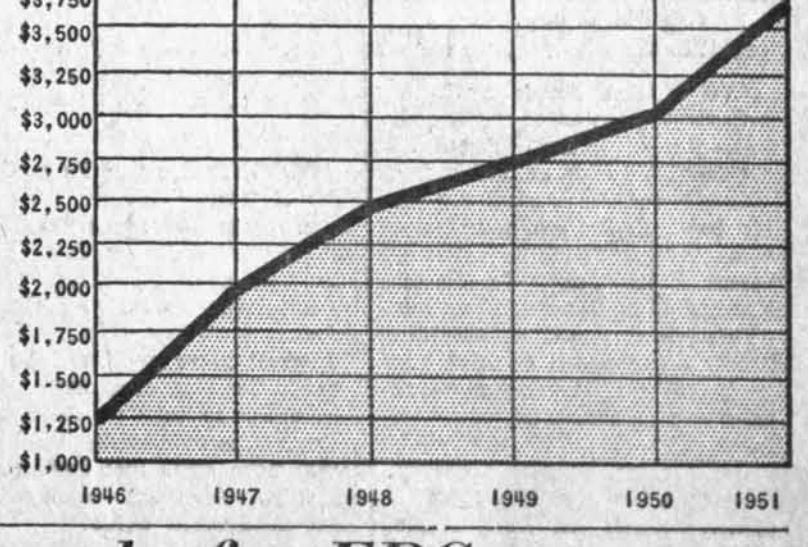
Oil Producing Properties Guarantee Source of Supply for FPC



In October, 1951 Farmers Petroleum Co-operative, Inc., completed purchase of a one-half interest in 136 producing oil wells located in central Illinois. FPC invested about \$2,500,000. Its share of the oil production is about 1200 barrels daily. The photo shows three wells, each pumping from a different pool. The well at the left draws oil from 900 feet, the middle well from 2200 feet, and the well at the right from 1200 feet. In the background is one of several batteries of storage tanks, together with a separator and heat treater

included in the purchase. In December of 1950 FPC bought 18 wells in Midland and Roscommon counties, Michigan, with a production of 200 barrels daily. One of the first objectives of FPC when it was organized three years ago was to acquire a production of crude oil that would supply half of its daily requirements.

Dollar Volume of Patrons' Purchases



What Should Be Done About Farm Credit in Inflation

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for January

DONALD D. KINSEY
Director of Research and Education

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

Farming is a business. If it is to be a successful business, problems of credit and finance must be understood. The individual business man must see his operations in the light of national conditions.

Wisdom dictates that credit be restricted in times of growing inflation. Expanding credit creates money, and inflation is created because there is already too much money in the market for the goods and services available.

Controlled credit is a balance wheel of business. It may aid in maintaining the production of goods and services needed to counteract inflation. So the wise use of credit in the right places and in essential amounts can be anti-inflationary.

Inflation as we have seen it in the years from 1947 to 1951 has not necessarily meant increasing prosperity for the farmer. From 1947 to 1950 farmers' net dollar incomes dropped 26%. The farmer's purchasing power declined 28%.

In 1951, prices paid for items used in farm family living are at an all time high. While the realized net income of farmers in 1951 is 18% higher than in 1950, about half of the increase is offset by higher costs of living and operating.

Farm production costs continued to rise during 1951. They average about 12% above 1950, their previous high record. Predictions call for a further climb in farm costs of about 5% in the year ahead.

Yet, let us consider. The picture is not all black for the farmer. The past ten years have seen marked improvements in the operating plants on the farm. Machinery and power equipment has been strongly expanded. Farm buildings have been replaced, repaired, remodelled at a new high rate in the last five years.

AT PRESENT prices the value of the farm plants in the U. S. is two times as much as it was in 1940. In terms of 1940 prices they are worth one and one-tenth times the value of that year.

In addition to this, farm people increased their financial assets 4.4 times in the 10 year period. Yet, with advancing prices, these assets would buy only 1 3/4 times as much as the money farmers owned in 1940. Prosperity is always related to the market value of a dollar at any given time.

THE YEAR of 1946 saw farm debt decrease to its lowest point in history. Since then it has increased, however, until it is 1.2 times as great as in 1940. This is because the farmer is still expanding his operations for production.

Well, there are the gains and the losses. The question is, what kind of a program of farm credit would be sound for the future? Should farmers ask for easy-bought money? Or should farm credit be restricted and controlled along with other forms of credit to keep inflation in check?

WE MIGHT consider whether an over-expansion of credit could spell disaster for the farmer. If we faced a period of falling farm prices it could. During the period between the two world wars two million farmers lost their farms through foreclosure. Thousands of them suffered handicaps as a result of assuming heavy debts based on high property values. It takes more reserves to protect a larger investment.

Farm costs, in any recession, drop more slowly than farm incomes. Cornell University studies of 14 farms over a 40 year period showed that in 1907 the total average capital investment on one of these farms was \$6,466. Cash expenses amounted to 35% of the cash receipts. In 1947, the same farms had an average capital investment of \$22,502.

Cash expenses were 73% of the cash receipts!

WHEN SUCH a drain on income is required to maintain farm operations, an added drain of farm debt can be ruinous. The need to calculate this added load into the cost picture is, made more pressing.

Inflationary land values on farms leads to the temptation to speculate in farm land by both farmers and non-farmers. Farm land has been near peak prices. Sharp increases in land prices may force dangerously high debt on land bought by farmers at such prices. It is not to the future welfare of agriculture that such speculation be allowed to spread in practice. The land must be kept productive. Speculation often puts it out of production, or mines its fertility, because the speculator either does not farm it, or else feels the need to cash crop it so heavily that it is severely abused.

AGRICULTURE loses as a result of such practices. The young farmer finds it more impossible to face the increased indebtedness required to buy a farm. Values on farm land must be kept in balance with farm purchasing power.

A SOUND Basis of Farm Credit. If farm financing rests on maintaining a more delicate balance between incomes and costs than ever, farm loans must be adjusted to the probable gains and ability to pay.

Interest rates must not be so low as to over-encourage the temptation to take on debt, nor so high as to overburden the borrower with costs that spell ruin when he needs the money to keep production going.

Previous to the development of Farm Credit Associations, interest rates to farmers were often excessive. Farmers had begun to organize credit associations prior to the depression years. The loss of farm capital, however, puts a damper on this

program. THE FEDERAL Land Bank had been formed in 1917. Congress passed the Farm Credit Act in 1933 which made it possible to continue the development of co-operative farm credit associations.

The Federal Land Banks developed local associations called National Farm Loan Associations. The Production Credit Associations came into being as co-operative credit organizations for farmers.

Now all the Federal Land Banks and their National Farm Loan Associations are farmer-owned co-operatives. In the U. S. 93% of the stock in the Production Credit Association has become farmer-owned stock. Supervisory direction of these organizations is carried on by the Farm Credit Administration at Washington, D. C.

FARMER ownership in the Production Credit Association has progressed rapidly in the last 5 years. In Michigan, farmers

own 84% of its stock. Short term loans to farmers are still largely made by commercial banks, since 84% of the loans are provided from this source. The PCA provides 16%, but that is enough to insure a par-dick on interest and keep them reasonable.

ONE has to gauge his risks in such times as these. In times of uncertainty as to the future of farm prices and high operating costs care is needed in assuming debt. The farmer's credit

associations have been using care in helping the farmer to evaluate the business wisdom of assuming indebtedness on the farm.

This, from the standpoint of the farmer, and in the face of the temptations of inflationary easy money, is a distinct service both to the farmer and to the national economy.

The control of farm credit by farmers, their associations, and all concerned is a vital factor in the future soundness of agriculture and the nation. Any sound

business must be founded on a sound financial policy.

Questions for Conclusions!
1. Is the credit policy needed for agriculture different than the credit policy required by other branches of our economy? If so, how?
2. Would it be sound to ask for rather unlimited expansion of credit for agriculture in times of inflation or uncertainty?
3. How can farmers insure for themselves the guarantee of fair interest rates on farm loans?

Annual Report of Farmers Petroleum Co-operative

(cont. from page 5)
wish to re-emphasize the fact that the directors, managers and personnel around the local associations are responsible for the rapid growth of this organization. Their efforts in acquainting more and more farmers of the security and opportunities for additional savings which are apparent in this type of program will maintain and accelerate the cooperative petroleum program in the future.



ALL FARM BUREAU MEMBERS From Chief Co-op Black Hawk

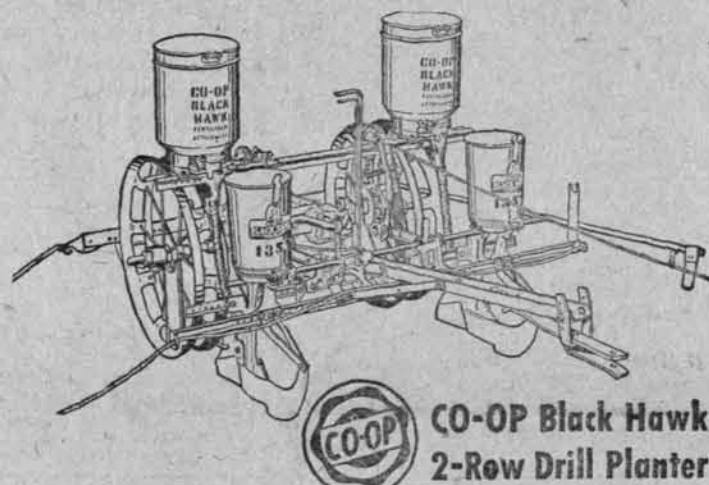


BLACK HAWK

Black Hawk is a proven name in farm machinery. For more than half a century it has been faithfully serving farmers throughout the middle-west. In 1897 the first Black Hawk corn planter was built. Since that time it has been recognized for its accurate performance, its simplicity of design and operation, as a leader in its field. Today the reputable name of Black Hawk, combined with the established name for quality of Co-op in a complete line of farm machinery, is making hundreds of new friends all over the nation. When you ask for Co-op Black Hawk, you know you are getting the very best.

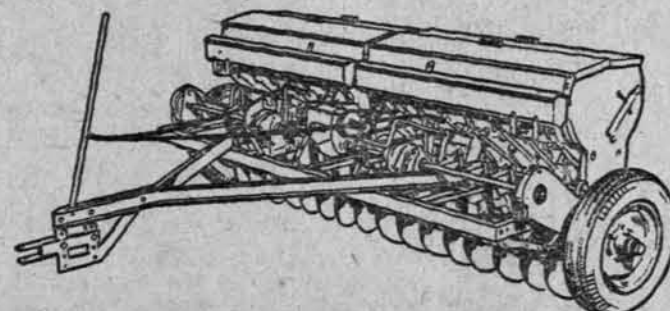
Let Co-op Machinery Make Profits For You In '52

Most Accurate Planter Made



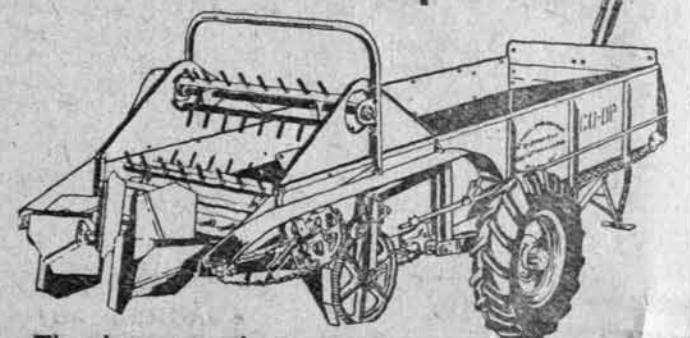
CO-OP Black Hawk 2-Row Drill Planter

BIGGER CAPACITY! SMOOTHER, FASTER DRILLING!



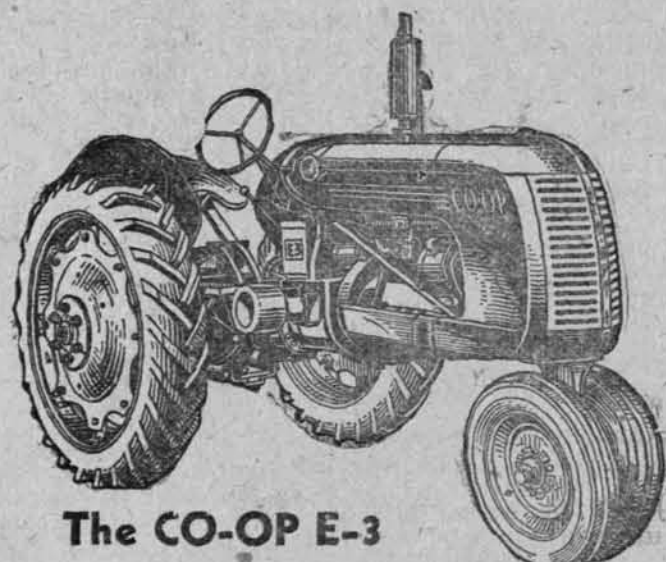
New FERTILIZER TYPE Co-op Black Hawk Grain Drill

Speed your Work with this New CO-OP Manure Spreader!



The Improved CO-OP Tractor-Drawn Manure Spreader

The proof of the pudding is in the eating! Farmers have learned that problems can be solved when they work together. They know that there is strength in unity. During the past nine years, Michigan farmers have helped develop through National Farm Machinery Co-operative a manufacturing program that now leads the industry with a very complete line of quality farm equipment.

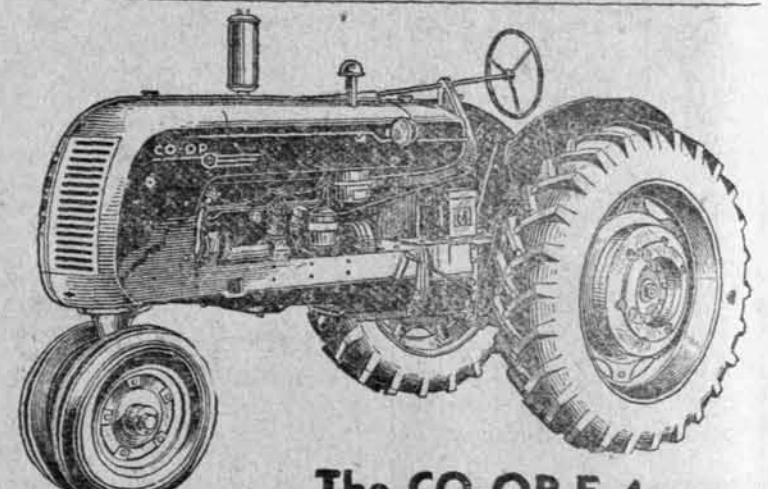
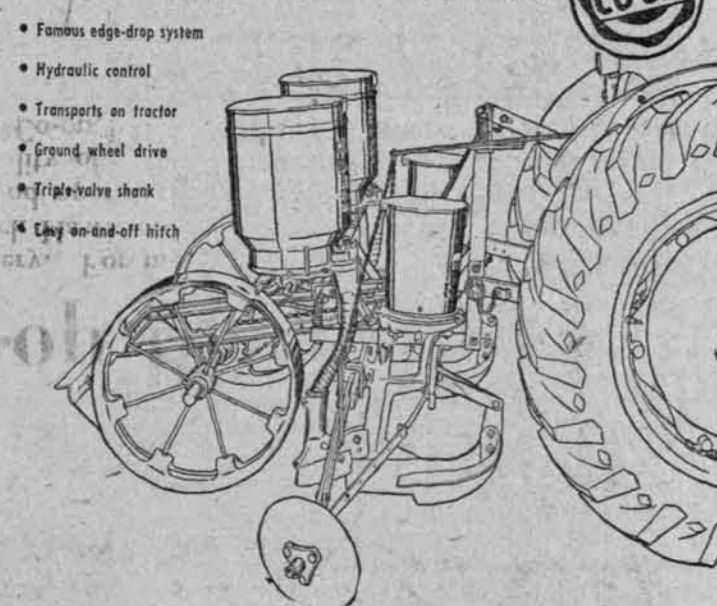


The CO-OP E-3

There's plenty of power in the modern Co-op E-3 Tractor. It's an eye-appealing machine with latest engineering features. Live power take-off... belt pulley... 8-speed transmission... live hydraulic system. It's designed and adaptable to all kinds of farming operations... heavy plowing, discing, seeding, planting, mowing, raking, combining, etc. High compression engine delivers maximum power with minimum gas consumption. Extra equipment available.

new features, convenience, value! CO-OP Black Hawk Rear-Mounted Planter

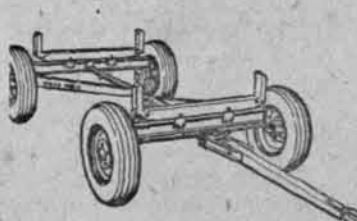
All the great CO-OP Black Hawk features plus fuel-saving transport on tractor... convenient hydraulic control... short-turn maneuverability. Built right in a farmer-owned factory—priced right for a greater value! See this great new CO-OP Black Hawk during our Planter Pow-Wow.



The CO-OP E-4

The Co-op E-4 is no "Junior" tractor for extra jobs. It is a mighty machine with amazing farming capacity. Powered by an efficient, economical 6-cylinder gas or diesel engine. New sliding spur gear transmission with 6 forward and two reverse speeds. It offers new comforts and conveniences; push button starter, handy grouped controls, comfortable, adjustable seat. Also available: independent pulley drive, separate control live power take-off; powerful hydraulic lift system.

"Keep Rolling" with the CO-OP BLACK HAWK FARM WAGON



All your farm hauling runs smoother, faster with a heavy-duty, all-steel Co-op Black Hawk Farm Wagon. Just look over this great Co-op Farm Wagon and you'll see why so many farmers consider it a real buy... sturdy, adaptable, long-lasting. 5000 pounds capacity.

Built for Years of Usefulness CO-OP BLACK HAWK SPRING TOOTH HARROW

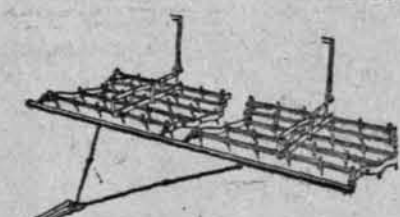


The Co-op Black Hawk Spring Harrow is a real money-saving value. A highly practical tool for many profitable practices—such as preparing seed beds, controlling weeds, cultivating meadows, orchards, pastures and renovating old alfalfa stands.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

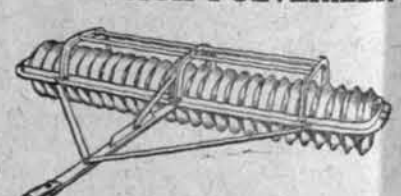
The successful operation of a farm machinery manufacturing program requires the support of every farmer. To produce high quality equipment at lowest cost, it is necessary to have a large manufacturing volume. That's where you come in. The replacement and maintenance of your farm equipment is one of your largest expenditures. Co-op farm tools now offer you unexcelled quality. The prices are low but you can help to make them lower through your support. You can make your own National Farm Machinery Co-operative one of the "big three" by using Co-op equipment. In this way you can also inject at manufacturing level keep competition into an industry in which you invest a large part of your farm income. Make Co-op your "buy" word.

Finer "FITTING" with the CO-OP BLACK HAWK SPIKE TOOTH HARROW



Here's a low-cost, sturdy tillage tool... built for years of dependable service. The Co-op Black Hawk Spike Tooth Harrow helps pulverize and firm the soil for a finished seed bed.

You Get Better ROOT Beds with this NEW CO-OP BLACK HAWK ROLL-PACK PULVERIZER



Whatever your crop—corn, grain, grass—it's off to a better start and yields more with this low-cost, many-purpose Co-op Black Hawk Roll-Pack Pulverizer.

Discussion Topics

They were chosen by your State Discussion Topic Committee from results of the Questionnaires returned by the Community Groups

- Jan. Inflation Controls and the Farm Credit Problem.
- Feb. Farm Accidents, Highway Accidents, and Insurance Rates to the Farmer.

Be sure to read your discussion topic article on this page of the Michigan Farm News each month. Attend your Community Group Meetings!

Make Your New Year's Resolution "to Learn More About My Co-op Farm Equipment Program" START TODAY BY SEEING YOUR NEAREST CO-OP MACHINERY DEALER

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

221-227 North Cedar Street

Farm Equipment Department

Lansing 4, Michigan