**Agriculture**

Trouble is brewing on the farm, says the U.S. News & World Report. It may be President Eisenhower's big problem at home.

When Ezra Benson takes over January 20 as Secretary of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, he takes over the farm situation.

Surpluses are showing up in the basic crops of wheat, corn, cotton, rice, and tobacco.

No help in controlling such surpluses will come from the Agricultural Act of 1932. It provides that

The U.S. must support prices of all basic crops at not less than 90% of parity through the crop year of 1954.

The American Farm Bureau pointed out last year that mandatory price support at 90% of parity could encourage production for the support price, and thereby assure surpluses.

Grain prices and livestock prices have been falling. Farmers are resorting to farm crops on corn, wheat and peanuts. Government loans on these products are soaring.

Farm costs continue to rise. It is to be hoped this situation will soon be a problem for the 83rd Congress.

**AFBF on Price Support for '53**

The American Farm Bureau Federation adopted the following statement on price support at its 44th annual convention at Seattle, December 9-11.

The principle underlying the present program to protect farm prices against collapses, to dispose of surpluses, and to bring about needed adjustments in production is that:

Farm price supports are an appropriate and necessary protection against unreasonable price declines. It is not, however, the responsibility of the government to guarantee profitable prices to any economic group.

In order to encourage high production per man on the farm, the emphasis in farm programs should continue to be on adequate prices in the market place rather than on income subsidies.

The program is to provide reasonable price protection without going to the extreme of government price fixing.

Government payments to farmers are not a desirable substitute for price supports or a satisfactory means of bringing income into agriculture.

The cost of the program to the government should be moderate.

The maintenance and improvement of our soil resources should be promoted.

Efficiency and the production of better quality commodities should be encouraged.

Emphasis should be given to the development of expanded markets on a farm basis and the importance of adjusting production to the real market demand.

Finally, opportunity for the individual farmer to adjust his operations to changing needs and conditions must be preserved.

**Alcorn Leads As 4 Counties Make Goal**

Alcorn and Monticello County Farm Bureaus reached their membership goals for 1953 on December 6.

Alcorn County Farm Bureau was the first to report. It has established a new mark for this county since it was organized as a Farm Bureau in 1937.

Monticello County Farm Bureau has been in the lead throughout the past three years and was honored last year for its extra efforts. Two years ago the bureau maintained a membership goal of 1,500 for its county.

This is the manufacturing plant of Cockshutt Farm Equipment Company at Brantford, Ontario. This company makes tractors, combines and other equipment for the building of tractors, combines and a complete line of farm machinery. Their factories are located in Smith Falls, Ont.

**Cockshutt Plant at Brantford, Ont.**

**Cockshutt Plant at Bellefonte, Ohio**

**Co-ops and Tractor Firms Gain by Deal**

Effective December 10, 1952, Cockshutt Farm Equipment Company of Brantford, Ontario, became the owner of the National Farm Machinery Cooperative at Bellefonte, Ohio, according to an announcement by J. F. Yeager, executive secretary of Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

This step was under negotiation for several months. C. L. Brophy of the Michigan Farm Bureau was chairman of the committee that negotiated the deal.

Cockshutt Farm Equipment Company, manufacturers of Co-op tractors and other Co-op equipment since 1945, has taken over all engineering and manufacturing operations at Bellefonte, Ohio.

Farm Bureau Services and 11 state and regional farm cooperatives which were in National Farm Machinery Cooperative will devote themselves to distribution and servicing of the full line of Co-op Black Hawk farm equipment. The company's factories, combines and other equipment will continue to be manufactured by Cockshutt at its plants at Brantford and Smith Falls, Ontario.

Cockshutt is the manufacturer of the Co-op Black Hawk line of farm machinery at Bellefonte, Ohio.

**Farms of the Future**

Cockshutt and 11 state and regional farm cooperatives serve several thousand farmers in the United States and Canada. They have distributed more than $128,000,000 of Co-op tractors and Co-op farm equipment. They are well equipped for distributing and servicing farm equipment.

The Cockshutt Farm Equipment Company is a very strong organization financially. It's manufacturing plants at Bellefonte and Smith Falls, Ontario, and Bellefonte, Ohio, are up-to-date and well equipped.

The new set-up with Cockshutt handling engineering and manufacturing operations and farm cooperatives in the United States handling the job of sales and distribution will assure the success of the cooperatives' farm equipment program.

**Roll Call Goes On: 41,118 December 16**

Looking Backward, Michigan Farm Bureau roll for members for 1953 is near the three-quarters mark. The December 16 report from County Farm Bureaus totalled 41,118 family memberships as paid up for 1953.

This is 27% of the goal of 56,662. Efforts are being made by County Farm Bureau membership workers to reach the state goal by January 2.

**January 15 Deadline for Blue Cross**

Do you have Blue Cross Insurance now? If you helped your Farm Bureau dues for 1953 price?

It is important, says Wesley B. Hurley, director of membership acquisition of the Michigan Farm Bureau, that members sign up for Blue Cross before January 15.

According to the new Farm Bureau Services and County Farm Bureau Association, a member's dues are never going to pay for Blue Cross insurance. The insurance is paid through the member's premiums.

This makes him eligible for Blue Cross Insurance when he joins a group through his Farm Bureau Services and County Farm Bureau Association. This applies to both old and new members of the Farm Bureau.

Kline appointments Dale Foster to National Post

American Farm Bureau President Albert Klime has appointed Dale Foster to head the Farm Bureau's National Youth Program, according to Michigan's representative to the American Farm Bureau, J. F. Yeager.

Kline, by the Michigan Farm Bureau's First Sergeant, was chairman of the committee that recommended Foster for the position.

The committee represents the态度 of the Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and the Young Women's Program, which is sponsored by the American Farm Bureau.
What Other Folks Say About Us

People write to C. R. B. "tips" and review proceedings of the Michigan Farm Bureau, to tell us what they think about the Farm Bureau. Except from some letters in December:

"I HAVE been reading the resolutions adopted by the Michi
Michigan Farm Bureau board of direc
I'm in full agreement.
The thing that always attracts me about your Board of Directors is the way they are to make the best of any situation.

"Time and again, you provide excellent material for our meetings."

-- R. T. T."}

Coop GLF Exchange
360 W. 11th St.

"YOU ARE certain to be impressed by your achievement in learning how to make your own decisions."

-- R. T. T."

Tax Advice

Michigan Farm Bureau

"What Other Folks SHY About I's"...

... that they must meet eight months of their nine officers.

-- R. T. T."

Michigan Farm Bureau Activities

MRS. MARJORIE GORDON

"GOLD STAR — Van Buren County"

"SILVER STAR — Allegan and Newaygo Counties"

NEW YORK CITY MEETING

"Honorable Mention ... at the Lansing, Michigan County"

Michigan Farm Bureau

"Dear Community Farm Bureau,

The meeting for November 25 in"... I was very pleased with the program..."

-- R. T. T."

Michigan Farm Bureau Active in Health Council

Michigan Farm Bureau is one of the ten largest health insurance companies in the state. During the past year, the organization has become a member of the Michigan Medical..."

-- R. T. T."

Michigan Farm Bureau

"Farm Bureau Insurance

567 South Grand Ave.
Lansing, Michigan"
Legislature Approves Two Farm Bureau Suggestions

Acts on Schools And Twp. Boards

STANLEY M. FOWLE, 1952 Legislative Counsel.

Definite action in line with two of the Michigan Farm Bureau’s 1952 resolutions was taken by the Michigan legislature at its special session December 18.

The Farm Bureau delegates had called attention to the serious financial situation confronting many school districts, particularly called attention to the serious financial situation confronting many school districts, particularly

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Summary of the 23rd Annual Report of Farm Bureau

Manager Reports

Steady Growth

J. F. Yager
Manager's Report to Farm Bureau Services, Inc., at Annual Meeting of Michigan State Co-op Presidents, Eaton, Michigan, Jan. 25, 1952

FARM BUREAU Services, like most businesses, has during the past year experienced postwar adjustment problems. Some of these problems have been extremely difficult.

The slowing up of the inflationary cycle and the return in most instances, to a buyer's market has emphasized the need for consolidation of gains and examination of personnel and finance programs.

In most instances, Farm Bureau Services has been able to make necessary adjustments and continue to move ahead and increase services for farmers.

Planning during the recent years, in which necessary adjustments were anticipated, has made possible in most instances of steady growth during the past year.

Increases are not limited to dollar volume alone, but unit volume is also materially higher. As an example, a

unemployment of 214,000 for the sheet

is 64,000,000 and the product

$7,769,000, an increase of $797,000 members. More money has been training is necessary. Men who

the past year. This can be attrib-


can not easily

$400,000 will disappear.

was
during the past year. It be-

the Leaders last

A FERTILIZER plant has been

approximately 46% of this ex-

accounts receivable are

it is needed from the above, that

normal operations, money is being better utilized and

today than was the case just a few years ago. However, operations have been unwieldy in some of those

The dip in tarnsaction volumes of steel items for farm use, such as harrows, disk plows, and a variety of other items, is indicative of the result of governmental and economic austerity programs. The outlook for the coming year is much more optimistic, and we are confident that prices for all categories of steel products will advance, and greater supplies are expected in 1953.
Distribution Division Operations for 1951-52

Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Condensed Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Bank</td>
<td>5,291,714</td>
<td>5,291,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>401,636</td>
<td>401,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>587,050</td>
<td>587,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise in Transit</td>
<td>1,977,284</td>
<td>1,977,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td>9,064,724</td>
<td>9,064,724</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INVESTED FUNDS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL Stock</td>
<td>2,183,754.00</td>
<td>2,183,754.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL FUNDS</td>
<td>11,248,478.00</td>
<td>11,248,478.00</td>
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</table>

During the years of 1948 and 1949 when the demand for profit was great, Michigan farmers were fortunate in having an abundant supply of ready-made fertilizer-manufacturing facilities. The record breaking yield of 1949 represented a serious accumulation in the planting period.

Operations Expand

The past ownership, in Central Farmers Fertilizer Company. This company owned a number of the plants in Michigan, including the Michigan Farm Bureau, which is the largest fertilizer plant in the state. The Michigan Farm Bureau is located in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

S. PATTERSON, President

The Michigan Farm Bureau, Inc., at Kalamazoo, Michigan, December 17, 1952.

We CONTINUE to see the problem of having experienced personnel and competent managers as our major goal. The Farm Bureau Services program is not new, but it is a program that is not as well established as it should be. We must continue to stress the importance of this program.

Farmers are investing some of their available capital into this program in order that they may continue to have available the necessary facilities to produce their crops.

A YEAR AGO we employed Farm Bureau Services out to provide these necessary facilities. We had 5 additional elevators under our control this year, and we were able to meet the demand of the farmers.

We are able to meet the demand of the farmers, and our program will continue to be successful.

The past year has been a successful one for our operations. We have been able to meet the demand of the farmers, and our program will continue to be successful.

The year 1952 was a very successful one for our operations. We have been able to meet the demand of the farmers, and our program will continue to be successful.
in 1951. There have been four explosions in one-room schools in the past 12 months. We have been lucky to see that the conditions are safe for the children. It is not understood by the public why should I close the district schools? I was brought up in a rural district school I have the responsibility to put the question to the State Fire Marshal to show that the conditions are safe for the children.

STATE MUTUAL PAYS!

Clothing, sports equipment, and household goods temporarily away from home are covered against loss from fire up to 50% of total contents insured. That's protection made to order.

Special Notice

WASHINGTON: Insurance can now be made a part of your State Mutual policy. It's no longer necessary to buy a separate policy to protect your buildings from windstorm damage. It is or should be, State Mutual gives you this protection along with your fire protection, in a "one-policy" package.

MAIL damage to your buildings can also be covered by State Mutual's new "one-policy" package. This protection gives you more than the ordinary "fire policy" mentioned above.

Remember, your State Mutual Policy is non-cancelable for its full term. If a fire were to occur in the future, the insurance will still be in force.

State Mutual's unique Fire Insurance Co. 221 North Cedar St. Lansing 4, Michigan

Dry Hay Sharpens Appetites of Dairy Cows

Many Michigan dairy farmers complain that their cows won't eat liberal amounts of grass silage during the day time. A solution to this problem can be solved quite simply. A small amount of corn hay—about six pounds—will sharpen the cows' appetites for the silage. The addition of a small amount of corn hay to the diet will make the silage more palatable to the cattle.