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President's Farm Program Before Congress

FEBRUARY 1, 1954

32nd Year

Published Monthly

Michigan Farm News

Michigan State Dept. of Agriculture
East Lansing, Michigan

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Roll Call Goal Near; 59,437 Members

BUREN EASTMAN

Coordinating Director of the Michigan Farm Bureau Promotion Department

The Michigan Farm Bureau roll call for members for 1954 totaled 59,437 on January 25. This is 97% of the state goal of 61,310. Last year at the same date the total was 55,047.

Twenty-two counties are over goal. Livingston county has the par in with 119% of goal. Bay is highest in the state. Muskegon is the only county which has failed to reach the goal. Last year at this time the county was 9% over goal. The map shows the status of the 104 counties

Kalamazoo Fertilizer is Nearing Completion

W. S. TAYLOR

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

The Kalamazoo Fertilizer plant at Kalamazoo is completed and ready for operation. It was built by the American Fertilizer Co. for the American Farm Bureau. The plant will have a man-made nitrogen capacity of 64,000 tons of plant a year.

Flexible Supports For Basic Crops

Says Program Must Also Be Helpful to the Three-Fourths of Farmers Not Big Producers of Six Basic Crops

President Eisenhower sent his administration's recommendations for a new farm program to Congress January 25 in his message to Congress, the President said that the right kind of a farm program must aim at solving all the problems of agriculture.

In his message to Congress, the President said that the right kind of a farm program must aim at solving all the problems of agriculture. About one-fourth of the America's farmers are major producers of one or more of the six basic crops: wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco, rice, and peanuts. They have had the most attention in the present farm program.

Allan B. Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau, had this to say about Mr. Eisenhower's farm program:

"President Eisenhower has proposed a forward-looking program with principles which are sound. The President's program would support the prices based on the average of the ten-year period from 1939 to 1948 and 1949. These two periods were both with high farm income and result in a maximum amount of new legislation and is designed to maintain agricultural income at high levels. Mr. Kline said the plan is the product of the most complete study of the American Farm program in history."

The program in a great discussion of the farm program that the Administration is working on. The Farm Bureau, the national Grange, the Farmers Union, and farmers of producer, processor, and trade groups, constitute the three important agricultural organizations, 600 of the best qualified agricultural men in the nation, individual farmers and citizens.

Mr. Kline of Agriculture said President Eisenhower's farm program makes these major recommendations:

1. That the bipartisanship program of the Administration will be continued with all the political parties working toward the passing of the new farm act.

2. That in order to cash in the benefits of this new program, the insured must carry the maximum amount of new legislation and is designed to maintain agricultural income at high levels. Mr. Kline said the plan is the product of the most complete study of the American Farm program in history.

FARM BUREAU BOARD NAMES OFFICERS

The Farm Bureau Board of Directors has elected its officers at the 86th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Deadwood, S.D.

Carl E. Rouse

President

Ward G. Rudge

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

Herman P. Bigelow

Executive Vice-Presidential Charge of Public Affairs

S. T. Tyley

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

F. D. Reed

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

P. X. Bird

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

F. C. Proctor

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

T. E. Geary

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

L. E. Birdsall

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

L. S. Rohr

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager

F. D. Reed

Executive Vice-President, Treasurer and General Manager
Dear Valentine,

Take care of those around you, and of your heart and mind. My heart yearns for your love, and my mind is filled with thoughts of you. I pray that you will find peace in my love.

My love for you is simple. It delights in you, and it is faithful. My heart is fond and true, Companion of my day, my love in every way.

My love is simple. It delights in you, and it is faithful. My heart is fond and true, Companion of my day, my love in every way. May your love be returned, and may your heart be filled with joy.

Sincerely,

R. S. Clark

Vol. 32 February 1, 1954 No.2

This is the AFBF Board for 1954

The new board of directors of the American Farm Bureau Federation for 1954: President Allen S. Kline of Iowa, and Vice-President Walter L. Brem of Bureau Federation for 1954. President Allen S. Kline of Iowa, and Vice-President Walter L. Brem at their first meeting.

Standing, left to right: Delmar Roberts, Arkansas; Alphonso, New Mexico; B. W. Lovett, Louisana; Harry E. Delamore, New York; Edmund W. Swenson, Wisconsin; Dr. Harry E. Bay, Georgia; H. T. Reynolds, Iowa; H. H. Foust, Indiana; Herbert E. Forsman, Washington; New York, New Jersey; Alfred L. French, Coned, New Hampshire; and J. E. Hootie, Oregon, Orego.

Seated, left to right: J. F. Slay, Indiana; Robert Greig, North Carolina; and Charles McMillan, Arkansas.

Your Time's Worth Money!

Enjoy Quick Convenience with STATE MUTUAL's "ALL-IN-ONE" Protection Plan

You'll save time, money and get complete protection from fire and wind for your home, building, and stock. Learn the facts at your State Mutual office. There's no duplicate coverage -- less chance of error. All your property is insured in one policy and the policy is non-assessable.

State Mutual Insurance Company

FEBRUARY 1, 1954

State Mutual Insurance Company

30 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

More dwarfs are on the way

Dwarf fruit trees are easier and cheaper to spray, thin, prune and harvest. And in spite of improved yields and quality, they're profitable, and Michigan State College horticultural specialists, after observing eight years of research, have found that dwarf trees have borne only from three to four pounds of fruit, much less than standard trees.

And when only five to eight years old they have reached up to five branches a tree. The dwarf fruit trees are already in existence on a farm in Illinois, and the Michigan State College horticultural specialists are working with them, with the goal of developing a better strain. The dwarf fruit trees are already in existence on a farm in Illinois, and the Michigan State College horticultural specialists are working with them, with the goal of developing a better strain. The dwarf fruit trees are already in existence on a farm in Illinois, and the Michigan State College horticultural specialists are working with them, with the goal of developing a better strain.

Dwarfs save space in telephone buildings. That, in turn, saves money and helps Michigan telephone companies. Today 600 of these "dwarf" tubes do the job that once took a whole roomful of equipment as it is to fruit trees. Take this tiny vacuum tube and the one connected to it. It is a complete vacuum tube and amplifier, which is a sparrow among the chimney swifts.

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March 1-20 is Blue Cross Enrollment Period

Time to Come in. Or Make Changes

Farm Bureau members should mark the period from March 1st through March 20th. It is the annual 20-day period when enrollment in Blue Cross is being handled, hospital, medical benefits plan is open to members.

Here, in brief, are the rules governing eligibility of Farm Bureau members for Blue Cross-Blue Shield group coverage at group rates:
1. Your Community Group must be one which is offering Blue Cross-Blue Shield Hospital, medical, medical benefits plan is open to members.
2. You must be a paid-up member of your Group by January 15, of the year you are carried on the membership roster which your group must submit to the County Farm Bureau office no later than January 15.

Most Farm Bureau members who are eligible are enrolled. For the state as a whole, seven out of ten members are covered.

In many groups the percentage is even higher. Numerous groups top 85 per cent and some range as high as 96 per cent.

As a Farm Bureau member on a Community Farm Bureau roster, the March 1-20 enrollment period is your one chance this year to get Blue Cross-Blue Shield group coverage for yourself and your family. Don't let it slip by.

The chance to have the best protection available against hospital and medical costs through Blue Cross-Blue Shield group coverage at group rates is one of the many advantages of Farm Bureau membership.

TO YOUR BLUE-Blue Shield LEADER

We are trying hard to guide you in the details, therefore outlining the benefits and costs to help you fill out the simple application form.

Blue Cross-Blue Shield is available in three families.

1. That you pay for your protection in advance.
2. That you pay for your protection in advance.
3. That you pay for your protection in advance.

Therefore, you must include payment for all coverage at the time of enrollment. From then on, you will be billed and paying nothing until through your approved group Blue Cross-Blue Shield parity in coverage.

Please read the details, literature outlining months of details, literature outlining months of advantages of Farm Bureau membership.

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To Farm Bureau Members Old & New

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1. Better informed on community affairs.
2. Better informed on consumer affairs.

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Activities of Farm Bureau Women of District 1

Five Counties Have Varied Programs

MISS HAZEL SHANNON of Muskegon, President of the St. Joseph County Farm Bureau Women's Committee, presented the program for the first meeting of the new year. Mrs. Howard Corbus, chairwoman for the Cass County Farm Bureau Women's Committee, introduced the first speaker of the meeting.

SAMPSON Thompson, temporary chairman for the proposed county center building for Cass County, described the new building for the Cass County Farm Bureau Women's Committee. Mr. Thompson detailed the committee's plans for the new center.

They also have a crew that helps in the Cass County Youth Camp, a project for adults. They agree to help their neighbors when needed.

VAN BUREN county Farm Bureau Women's Committee is planning a project for adults. They plan to help their neighbors when needed.

The group of FIV members was the first in the state to sell apples. They plan to help their neighbors when needed.

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President's Farm Program

Chairman Page MFB News, the Michigan Farm Bureau News, is publishing a new series of articles on the special problems of the Farm Bureau women. The articles are written by Mary E. Briggs, president of the Farm Bureau Women's Chapter, and by Mrs. Howard Corbus, chairwoman for the Cass County Farm Bureau Women's Committee.

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How Well Do You Know Your Farm Bureau?

You and 60,000 Others Built Well

This Article Describes Origin, Purpose, The Activities of Michigan Farm Bureau and 4 Service Companies

Edith of Michigan Farm News

The Michigan Farm Bureau, its 60,000 members, is the largest general farming organization in the state. It is influential in public affairs and in the business interests of agriculture.

Headquarters of the Michigan Farm Bureau and four Farm Bureau service companies are at Lansing. They are the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, distributors of farm supplies; the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, and automobile and farm liability insurance; the Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company.

These organizations have properties and service facilities for farmers throughout lower Michigan.

The Michigan Farm Bureau was organized by a group of independent County Farm Bureaus on February 4, 1919, as a membership type, non-profit general farm organization. Its objective was stated as "the advancement, relatively, and economically." It was organized at a time when state Farm Bureaus were being organized throughout the nation. The movement culminated in a national organization of Farm Bureaus at the county, state and national levels in 1919.

When the Michigan Farm Bureau was organized, it was intended to develop Farm Bureau functions for the co-operative marketing of live stock, grain, beans, wool, fruit, dairy products and other commodities.

The Farm Bureau was instructed to establish a field service and a farm supply department for the membership.

The Farm Bureau was also instructed to establish general public affairs service which has represented the membership to the legislature, to Congress and departments of government, as well as to other groups of public and private interest for 34 years. This operation is now under the direction of the Executive Vice-President in charge of Public Affairs, Mr. C. L. Brokaw.

Today the Michigan Farm Bureau has developed into a membership and public relations organization, and into a parent organization of four farm service companies.

Mr. J. F. Yager is their executive secretary and treasurer, and was the general manager Mark the Michigan Farm Bureau.

January meeting in November, membership of each County Farm Bureau.

The Michgan Farm Bureau resorption of eight county Farm Bureau offices, having been completed by all County Farm Bureau offices, and national levels. They are operating in a general way, as one organization, the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company.

The Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting is the principal event of the year. It includes the Farm Bureau's policy and program. The farmland and the national affairs of the state are dealt with at recommendations to the Farm Bureau's Board of Directors.

Over the years, some of the marketing and purchasing activities have been developed during these years. The concentration of marketing of various commodities by the individual Farm Bureau offices has been the primary activity of the Michigan Farm Bureau. It has been involved in the marketing of farm products, such as dairying, livestock, and tobacco. It has been conducted on a cooperative basis.

The governing body of Michigan Farm Bureau is the General Farm Bureau, which domestic employees, officers and members of the Farm Bureau, and non-Farm Bureau employees serve in the capacity of directors of the Farm Bureau. The General Farm Bureau is elected by the membership, and serves in this capacity.

The directors and the executive vice-president in charge of Public Affairs, Mr. C. L. Brokaw, are responsible to the board. The board of directors consists of 15 members. It is done in this manner: Delegates from the Farm Bureau member organizations of the County Farm Bureaus, the state and national levels, are elected by those members at the annual meeting of the County Farm Bureau. The board of directors is responsible to the board. The board of directors is responsible to the Board of Directors.

The resolutions presented by all County Farm Bureau resolutions adopted by the Michigan Farm Bureau, and the Michigan Farm Bureau resolution, are presented to the American Farm Bureau. The resolution is adopted by the annual meeting held in Lansing, the state capital.

The directors also elect the executive vice-president in charge of Public Affairs, Mr. C. L. Brokaw, and election of the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. W. M. Zemek is done in the same manner. The directors also elect the executive vice-president in charge of Public Affairs, Mr. C. L. Brokaw, and election of the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. W. M. Zemek is done in the same manner.

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Financing Drains Within & Between Counties

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for February

Background Material for Program in February by 1281 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

Note: A change is planned in the discussion calendar. The State Discussion Topic Committee has approved a shift to consider the March topic at this time. The topic that was scheduled for February will be taken up next month.

A DRAINAGE PLAN FOR THE PROMISED LAND

Water flows through the land.
"What shall we do with it?"
"Blow it away!"
"How can we use it?"
"Let it flow into the ditch!"
"Let us turn it into a stream!"
"Let us use it to irrigate our crops!"
"Let us use it to control erosion!"

In Paradise, they tell us, the ditches are filled with waters that over the centuries have overflowed the farms, leaving the land fertile and productive.

But in much of the state, the problems have been the opposite: too much water on the land, creating flooding and erosion hazards.

The very purpose of the project that will be discussed next month is to develop a plan for the proper use of drainage water in those areas where it is not wanted.

THE VERT project, covering a 1,234 square mile area of land, is designed to reclaim this land by using irrigation and drainage techniques. Many of these techniques systems control the existing geographical patterns of drainage, and some run into the billions of dollars.

While a local community might have the resources necessary to undertake such a project, it would be impossible for the state as a whole to carry it out without outside assistance.

The VERT project has been developed over a period of years, with the aim of using existing geographical patterns of drainage to their fullest extent. Many of these patterns already exist, and can be incorporated into the project with little additional cost.

THE POINT has been made that the VERT project is not only a matter of reclaiming land, but also a matter of providing water for the growing number of farms in the state. The project is expected to provide water for irrigation, as well as for domestic and industrial use.

The size of the assessment needed to carry out the project is expected to range from 50 to 100 dollars per acre. This cost is expected to be divided among the owners of the land, with the state providing some assistance.

Perhaps there is another way to look at the situation. Perhaps the VERT project is not only a matter of reclaiming land, but also a matter of providing water for the growing number of farms in the state.

THEME: "Financing Drains Within & Between Counties"

Are you interested in learning more about the VERT project? Would you like to see how it might be applied to your own farm? If so, join us next month for further discussion of this important topic.

Plan of Action For County Chairman

WESLEY S. HAWLEY
Coordinator of Community Farm Bureau

The purpose of the project is to provide a drainage system for those areas of land that are not currently drained. The project will also provide for the control and management of water on the land, and will be financed through a system of assessment charges.

The cost of the project is expected to range from $50 to $100 per acre, depending on the size of the area to be drained. This cost will be divided among the owners of the land, with the state providing some assistance.

New Ruling on Income Tax

A tax on the income of farmers is proposed in the annual budget. The tax would be based on the value of the land owned by the farmer, and would be payable in equal annual installments.

Unlike other proposed taxes, this one would be levied on the value of the land, rather than on the farmer's income. This would ensure that farmers are not burdened by a tax on their earnings, which are often uncertain and variable.

Official tractors tested prove unmatched economy of might

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