

Michigan Farm News

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Vol 32, No. 5

MAY 1, 1954

32nd Year

Published Monthly

How Farm Bureau Fared in 1954 Legislature

FB Farm Program Bills in Congress

The American Farm Bureau's proposals for improvements in farm price support and agricultural production adjustment legislation are the foundation of two bills introduced in the House of Congress the week of April 12.

The bills, HR-8858 by Rep. Thomas R. Martin (R) of Iowa, and HR-8793 by Rep. A. S. Herlong (D) of Florida, have been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. Similar legislation is expected to be introduced in the Senate.

Representative Martin said, "We should make certain that price support policies and programs serve the long time interests of farmers and the general welfare. Any program that is costing \$500,000 a day in storage charges can be improved. Any program that seeks to solve the surplus problems of one crop by diverting acres to produce price depressing surpluses of unsupported crops and livestock needs revision if it is to serve the real interest of all farmers."

The American Farm Bureau said the Martin and Herlong bills carry out the major recommendations of the State Farm Bureaus at the AFBF convention at Chicago last December. The bills contain AFBF proposals for flexible price supports, 90% of parity support for a basic crop the FIRST year marketing quotas are in effect, in order to provide time to bring supply into line. A provision for a "soil fertility bank," requires that producers devote a percentage of cropland to soil building crops or practices to qualify for price support on crops not under quotas.

The Martin bill adds a "cross compliance" section to join with the "soil fertility to relieve insofar as possible the transfer of problems of one group of producers to another. Under "cross compliance" the Sec'y of Agriculture shall require that to qualify for price support or conservation payments the producer must be in compliance on all crops for which marketing quotas are in effect.

Michigan Week May 2 to 8

The week of May 2 to 8 is the first ever devoted by the citizens to considering Michigan as a state and the things that make it great.

An educational program is sponsored by Greater Michigan, Inc., in cooperation with the Michigan Economic Development Commission, other State agencies, and the people.

Cities and villages will hold special programs this week. There will be parades. Theatres will have special showings. Citizens will have exhibits and posters in their places of business.

The Michigan Farm Bureau has joined with State, business, civic, educational and social groups in "This Is Your Michigan" program. Greater Michigan, Inc., expects to supply our 1300 Community Farm Bureau discussion leaders with some Michigan Week material for their meetings.

MICHIGAN is known throughout the world as the leader in the production of transportation vehicles, but actually it is a state of wide manufacturing diversity. You'll find 81 percent of all the kinds of industry in Michigan.

AGRICULTURE. Although 22nd in area, Michigan consistently ranks 10th or better for total production of the nation's 20 major crops. In the production of sour cherries, cantaloupes, and pickle cucumbers Michigan ranks first.

The state ranks second in the production of plums, celery, onions and field beans, and third in the growth of apples, grapes, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, strawberries and tomatoes.

ALONG Lake Michigan we have one of the most important fruit belts in the United States. It is often called the "Fruit Basket of the Middle West."

In mineral resources, Michigan stands high in the production of iron ore, copper, salt, brines, gypsum, limestone, sand and gravel.

MICHIGAN leads the nation in the production of salt and gyp-

sum. From the brines of Michigan we obtain bromine used in your anti-knock gasoline, calcium chloride, iodine, and more than 100 other chemicals and medicines.

Our state ranks fourth in the nation in paper and paperboard production.

THE TOURIST industry is our fourth largest. Nature was good to Michigan. The state has 11,037 inland lakes, 36,350 miles of streams, 3,121 miles of Great Lake shoreline.

Last year Michigan sold 1,155,700 fishing licenses and 1,192,800 hunting licenses.

To make the tourist's stay in Michigan as comfortable as possible, we have built more state parks and prepared campsites than any other state.

OUR educational system has been used as a model in nearly all of the western states. The state stands third in the number of students enrolled in institutions of higher learning.

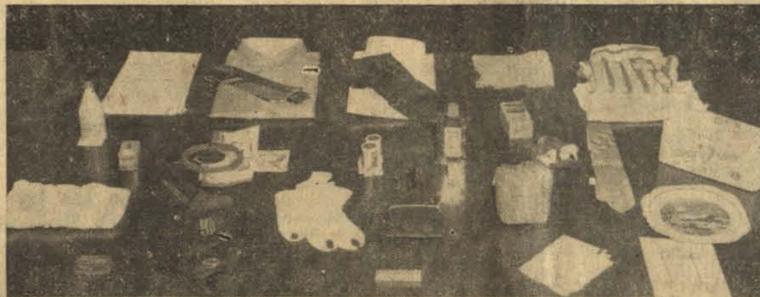
Michigan is America's largest inland world-trade center. Its Detroit River is the busiest waterway in the world.

Buy Farm Bureau Seed.

Try to Spend \$270, Leave \$56.80



JACK YAEGER is shown giving \$10 each to El Crane and Fred Long, Farm Bureau store managers, for a shopping test April 16 in Lansing stores. Twenty-seven managers were sent to buy certain items. If the sales person suggested a related item, they were to buy it.



SO FEW sales people suggested related items that the Farm Bureau managers spent only \$56.80 of their \$270 in the half-hour period. Their purchases are shown above. The test was made to demonstrate the importance of helpful attention to the customer. It will be followed up in Farm Bureau stores.

Shopping Test Impresses Farm Bureau Managers at Lansing

Clerks in Lansing stores—and elsewhere too—are going to get a pep talk when their bosses read this story, said Willard Baird in The State Journal at Lansing April 16.

TWENTY-SEVEN men, willing to spend \$270, succeeded in leaving only \$56.80 with Lansing merchants during a half-hour shopping test Thursday afternoon. Mr. Baird said:

The stunt was conducted without advance notice. Officials of the Farm Bureau Services wanted to impress upon their 27 store managers the importance of extending helpful service to their customers.

J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary of the Farm Bureau, explained the test to the managers at a luncheon meeting. Each manager was given \$10 and told to buy a specified item at a designated store in downtown Lansing.

EACH of the shoppers was instructed to return without making a purchase if he was not waited upon within 10 minutes after entering the store. He was also told that if he bought the assigned merchandise, he was al-

so to purchase any other related item the sales clerk might suggest.

"The idea was to determine the sales consciousness among clerks in the interest of rendering service to the customer rather than suggest high-pressure salesmanship," Mr. Yaeger explained.

When the test was over the managers turned in a detailed report on their shopping experiences in 27 Lansing business places—department stores, drug stores, camera and sporting goods shops, hardware stores, and auto accessory establishments.

NONE of the 27 shoppers spent all his \$10, and the most any of them spent was \$5.67.

Three bought nothing and returned with all their money. No one bothered to wait on them for 10 minutes.

Eight bought the item they were told to purchase, but were not asked if they wanted anything else.

Six bought only the assigned item. They were asked if they wanted something else, but said a specific related item was not suggested to them by the clerk.

NINE bought one additional item besides the assigned mer-

chandise, and one bought two extra items.

Instances were reported of several clerks huddled together at one counter, all of them ignoring a customer at another counter. But that's not the end of the test.

Within a few weeks Farm Bureau Services store managers will dispatch their own sales force on shopping missions under the same instructions which governed the Lansing test.

In this manner the managers hope to impress upon their clerks the importance of courteous and helpful attention to the customer.

FARM BUREAU stores will be checked before long, too. Within the next three months, the Farm Bureau's state sales and supervisory departments will conduct a similar shopping test in all Farm Bureau stores to see if the sales workers are on their toes.

One point the Farm Bureau is stressing is the service a clerk can render by suggesting an item the customer may need but forgets to mention.

The helpful hint of a salesman can save the customer an extra trip.

Expect Fire Insurance Program to Start in May

Requests from Farm Bureau Members for Charter Policies Total \$69,300,00 New Capital Fund Over-subscribed

Supported by capital pledges amounting to nearly twice the \$250,000 sought, the Michigan Farm Bureau's new state-wide fire insurance program will go into effect within the next month with requests for \$69,300,000 of protection.

Announcement of the striking success of the program to obtain financing and policy reservations has been made by Nile L. Vermillion, manager of the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan, and Keith Tanner, manager of the Farm Bureau's membership service division. The Mutual Company will add the fire protection to its present automobile and farm liability lines.

"WE HAVE been given an overwhelming demonstration of the interest of Farm Bureau members in this new program," Messrs. Vermillion and Tanner said. "The members literally took upon themselves the responsibility of getting the program started, ap-

pointing their own county and community leaders to obtain pledges of financing and advance requests for fire insurance protection.

By March 31 when solicitation ended, a total of \$489,000 in capital pledges had been obtained. Instead of being pinched by limited capital, we face a real problem in allotting the \$250,000 surplus certificates that we have available against the \$489,000 in requests for them.

OUR original goal in advance requests for fire insurance policies was \$50,000,000. Instead, we have 5,538 requests for fire insurance covering farm properties valued at \$69,300,000. There is, of course, no overall maximum that will limit our ability to meet these policy requests.

"We are delighted at the great interest and strong support which the Farm Bureau membership has awarded to the fire insurance pro-

Propose Sale Of Detroit Packing Co.

Directors of the Detroit Packing Company are urging that all stockholders and members attend a most important special meeting of stockholders and members at Pittsfield Grange Hall, Saline, Ann Arbor highway, (2 miles south of the city of Ann Arbor) on May 8, 1954 at 1:00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 11:30 a.m.

IF STOCKHOLDERS and members cannot attend, they are to sign and mail at once, the proxy sent to all members. Mail to the Secretary, Detroit Packing Company at 1120 Springwells Ave., Detroit 9, Mich.

The official notice of the meeting states the meeting is "for the purpose of considering and taking action with respect to:

(a) The adoption of a resolution authorizing the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the corporation upon such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Directors shall deem expedient and for the best interest of the corporation;

(b) the amendment of Article VII of the Articles of Incorporation to provide that the term of the corporation shall expire on May 31, 1954;

(c) the taking of such other action as may be determined at the meeting to provide for the dissolution of the corporation, and the liquidation of its assets, and the winding up of its affairs; and

(d) the transaction of any other business incidental to any of the foregoing purposes."

61,975 Families Members of Farm Bureau

April 29 the membership of the Michigan Farm Bureau for 1954 stood at 61,975 families in 63 County Farm Bureaus. The goal of 61,310 was reached March 29. During April the MFB made a gain of 665 families.

THE EVENING of April 21 a victory dinner program was given at the Union Memorial Building, Michigan State College by the Michigan Farm Bureau to honor the Roll Call Managers of 34 County Farm Bureaus. They had 100% or more of their 1954 goal by April 9. Quite a number of the counties reported their 1955 and 1956 goals attained.

MFB regional membership representatives and MFB state directors for the areas including the 100% or better County Farm Bureaus attended the victory dinner.

COUNTIES in the 100% Goal Getters class and their campaign managers are:

Alcona, Archie Cordes; Alpena, Alfred Dove; Arenac, Percy Crawford; Barry, Barbara Barcroft; Bay, Julius Rabe; Benzie, Marion Nye.

Berrien, Ray DeWitt; Branch, Arthur Hagerman; Calhoun, Wilbur Smith; Cheboygan, Jack Savella; Gladwin, Gordon Willford; Gratiot, Mrs. George Davidson; Huron, John Terrill and William Harwood.

Ingham, Dale Duncel; Ionia, Mrs. Lester Covert; Kalamazoo, G. T. Blankshire; Kalkaska, Jesse Atkinson; Lapeer, Sam Titus; Livingston, Mrs. Lillian Komraus; Mecosta, Clement Bennet; Missaukee, Peter Hendricks; Montmorency, Gordon King.

Monroe, Wilbur E. Smith; Muskegon, Mrs. Waldo Wainwright; Northwest Michigan, John Heim; Ogemaw, Earl Tucker; Ottawa, Florence Smallegan; Presque Isle, Erwin Fleming; Saginaw, Erwin Bretznitz.

St. Joseph, L. Edward Thompson; Sanilac, Eldon Winters; Tuscola, Clark Montague; Van Buren, Lynnford Goss; Washtenaw, Don Gill.

Cultivation

It's possible to save up to \$5 per acre in tillage cost by using once-over cultivation without reducing yields on spring-planted crops, say M.S.C. crops specialists.

Fights Were Over Milk Legislation

Farm Bureau Pleased with Action Taken On Many Recommendations Made by Membership to Legislature

STANLEY M. POWELL
Legislative Counsel for Michigan Farm Bureau

Owen C. Deatrick, Lansing correspondent of the Detroit Free Press, has made good as a prophet. November 22, 1953, he had a signed article in the Free Press beginning with these words:

"LANSING—Smart lawmakers have an advance blueprint of what is going to happen in the next session of the Michigan Legislature.

"There's no need to consult fortune tellers—all they have to do is pay close attention to the resolutions approved by the Michigan Farm Bureau at East Lansing 10 days ago."

Mr. Deatrick then went on with a two-column article amplifying that theme and backing it up with what happened during the 1953 legislative session. Now it's time to check up on Mr. Deatrick and see how his predictions actually panned out during the recent 90-day session.

Let's take a look at what was actually enacted in line with the program laid down by the voting delegates at the MFB convention last November:

Milk Legislation. Two of the shortest resolutions precipitated the Farm Bureau into the hottest controversies of the session. These were the resolutions which the delegates had adopted to remove the ban on use of bulk milk dispensers in Michigan and to outlaw super-fortified milk.

Measures embodying these provisions, namely H-249 legalizing dispensers and H-210 forbidding manufacture and sale of medicated milk, were finally enacted after long weeks of battling and despite the very effective efforts of a potent lobby. Every interest that thought that it might be adversely affected by passage of either bill ganged up to kill both bills. These forces may yet have the last laugh. They are trying desperately to convince Governor Williams that he should veto the measures.

Sales Tax Diversion. The MFB delegates had approved the principles of the "Conlin Plan" to amend Michigan's Constitution relative to the sales tax diversion. This was approved by the necessary 2/3 vote of the Representatives and Senators and will be on the November, 1954, election ballot. Between now and November we will explain in detail just what changes would be brought about by adoption of the new plan.

The delegates had urged that Michigan's commercial fertilizer law be brought up to date. In the past, bills that we had supported on this subject either died in committee or were defeated on the Senate floor. This year the same bill regarding which we made so little progress in the past was approved unanimously in both the House and Senate.

THE DELEGATES had asked that it be made a crime to abandon a refrigerator without removing the latch. H-1, embodying this provision, was approved by both the House and Senate and ordered to take immediate effect.

Traditionally the Michigan Farm Bureau gives its support to very few appropriation requests. This year those endorsements were limited to four items and the Legislature took favorable action on all of them.

AGR'L MARKETING. For starting the new program of research and education to encourage expanded utilization of Michigan farm products, the Legislature appropriated \$294,000 for the coming year.

ANIMAL INDUSTRY. It granted \$750,000 to start a \$4,000,000 Animal Industries Building at MSC.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. It provided \$700,000 for work during the coming year on construction of the so-called Hawthorne Center, a children's psychiatric hospital at Northville. An ultimate expenditure of \$1,812,000 for this project was authorized. This is the exact figure recommended in a resolution adopted by the Women of the Michigan Farm Bureau in 1952 and for which they have been battling so vigorously during the past year and a half.

RESEARCH & EXTENSION. The Farm Bureau delegates had

advocated more liberal appropriations for research and agricultural extension and the Legislature responded in harmony with that recommendation.

DRAINAGE LAWS. The Farm Bureau delegates had gone on record favoring a codification of the drainage laws so that there would be one understandable law covering this subject. The Legislature passed a Concurrent Resolution setting up an interim study committee to formulate a new drainage code to submit to the 1955 legislative session.

The resolution above was amended to include another Farm Bureau recommendation, that is the study of the legal right to the use of water in Michigan. This is important because of lowering water levels and the increasing use of water for irrigation as well as for industrial and domestic purposes.

BONDS FOR BUYERS. The Farm Bureau delegates called attention to losses sustained by farmers through failure of purchasers of livestock and dairy products to make payments in all cases. They favored legislation to require greater financial responsibility on the part of purchasers of these products. Three bills dealing with this situation were introduced and considered during the recent session.

In the end, the House passed a resolution providing for setting up a study committee consisting of (Continued on Page 4)

(Continued on Page 2)

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Einar E. Ungren Editor James Osborne Associate Editor

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Michigan Farm Bureau

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Representing JUNIOR FARM BUREAU

Vern Thalman, Berrien Center

PURPOSE OF FARM BUREAU

The purpose of this Association shall be the advancement of our members' interests educationally, legislatively, and economically.



Rhyme of The Dairy Cow

Consider now the placid cow, I do not have in mind The longhorn breed, of early days, Nor yet the purple kind, But rather shall my subject be That belle of here and now, That paragon of gentleness, The modern dairy cow.

A disposition such as hers Deserves all commendation. Her character, beyond reproach, Engenders emulation. Her liquid eyes, her melting glance, Her mild and modest mein, Her slender limbs and natural stance All mark her as a queen.

How fragrant is her ruminant breath As toward the barn she paces, Presenting at the pasture gate The kindest of faces. With selfless life and generous heart Does she not seek to be The foster nurse to all mankind With milk so warm and free?

Consider, if you will, with me This fount of every virtue. Avoid her horns and shun her heels And she will seldom hurt you. In truth and all-sincerity I crown her patient brow And nominate for Country Queen The modern dairy cow.

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

What They're Saying...

Health Dep't Raps Too Much Vitamins

Mr. Stanley Powell Michigan Farm Bureau Lansing, Michigan Dear Mr. Powell:

In compliance with your request for a statement regarding House Bill 225 as drafted, please be informed that we think the bill is a good one and concur in its content because:

- 1. The composition of whole milk is such that the addition of vitamin D makes it a more nearly perfect food and particularly so for growing children, expectant and nursing mothers. 2. Skim milk will benefit for the above reasons plus the fact that the addition of vitamin A supplements that which was removed with the butterfat. We feel that further fortification is unwise and may be detrimental because:

- 1. Nutrients ingested in amounts greatly exceeding normal requirements, (a) places a strain on the body's organs involved in the excretion of the excess, or (b) cause disease conditions. 2. Scientific literature cites the

following ill effects of excessive intake of vitamins: loss of hair, toxicity, loss of appetite, loss of weight, overstimulation of the thyroid gland, pains in the long bones of the legs, irritability and gastro-intestinal impacts, hemorrhage and fatty livers. Most of this evidence is on human subjects. Very truly yours, Albert E. Heustis, M. D. Commissioner Mich. Dep't of Health Lansing, April 5, 1954

Medical Society On Fortified Milk

Mr. Stanley M. Powell Michigan Farm Bureau Lansing, Michigan Dear Mr. Powell:

The following information may be of interest to you in view of the sponsorship which the Michigan Farm Bureau has given to HB 225, a bill dealing with fortification of milk. You will recall that last year when proposals were being made regarding the regulations pertaining to the fortification of milk that the Michigan State Medical Society was opposed to unlimited fortification and protested against the regulations being considered at that time by

the Department of Agriculture. These protests were made upon the basis that unless there were maximums placed on the amounts of vitamins and other additives put in the milk that dangers could accrue to children using it. Consistent with that position the MSMS Legislative Committee on March 4, 1954 approved HB 225. The action of this Committee was approved by the Executive Committee of The Council (our policy-making body) on March 12, 1954. This commits the entire Society to the support of HB 225.

In view of the service you are rendering to the people of Michigan in sponsoring this legislation, please know that if we can be of any help to you, we are at your service. Very sincerely yours, L. A. Drolet, M. D., Chmn. Legislative Committee, Mich. State Medical Soc. Lansing, April 5, 1954

Community Farm Bureaus

MRS. MARJORIE GARDNER Coordinator of Records

Dear Community Farm Bureau Members:

Since the last issue of the News, 21 Community Farm Bureau Groups have been organized in the state for a total of 1339 groups to date. This brings the total of newly organized groups to 93 plus 5 reorganized groups and leaves a balance of 268 groups to make goal. Our records indicate of the 93 newly organized groups 743 groups have applied for Blue Cross Service either during registration or within the past month.

The Community Farm Bureau activity report for the month of March indicated that 95% of the total number of groups in the state reported to the state office; 94% held monthly discussions and 99% of them reported conclusions on the monthly topic.

Farm Bureau Women have been holding their regular spring series of district meetings. One of the points that has been stressed in all districts is the importance of having the member of the County's Women Committee report to her Community Farm Bureau Group regularly and effectively. Listed below are some specific duties of the Member of the County Women's Committee who is elected by each Community Group. This information may be of value to you in bettering this portion of your Community Group program. The Women's Committee member should:

- 1. Represent the Community Group on the County Farm Bureau Women's Committee.

- 2. Attend the meetings of the County Women's Committee.

- 3. Bring matters of interest to the attention of the County Women's Committee. These matters may be the concern of her Community Group.

- 4. Report to the Community Group the recommendation and plans of the County Women's Committee.

- Listed below are the newly organized Community Farm Bureau Groups not previously reported. Allegan County - West Wayland Community Farm Bureau, Mrs. Marie Blaauw, Secretary, Glenn, Mrs. Donald Keirnan. Lenawee - Fairfield Center, Mrs. Joseph Lakatos, Cathole Hill, Russell Moyer. Wayne - South Western, Mrs. Virginia Monks. Eaton - Friendly Farmers, Mrs. Harry Marsh. Genesee - West Forest, Mrs. Flossie Williams. Ionia - A New, Mrs. Harold Funk. Lapeer - Montgomery, Mrs. Harold Muxlow. Macomb - Big Four, Mrs. Helen Blackly. St. Clair - Grant, Mrs. Howard Gilbert. Tuscola - Deford, Mrs. Earl Rayl, Sr.; Louisville, Mrs. Ealy Ackerman. Mecosta - Mecosta Twp, Mrs. Gordon Fraser. Newaygo - Ashland Young People, Mrs. June Myers. Saginaw - The Debaters' Club, Mrs. Ruth Slack. Benzie - Thompsonville, Ferner Crosby. Kalamazoo - Long Laker, Mrs. Fred Lynch. Manistee - Brookfield, Mrs. Walter Kirk, Portage, Mrs. Charles Brown. N. W. Michigan - Monroe Center, Mrs. LeRoy Ockert. Alpena - Star, Mrs. Barbara Bushney.

STAR AWARDS

Gold Star Award winners for the month of February are as follows:

ALLEGAN COUNTY - Lake Shore Community Farm Bureau Group, Mrs. R. F. Crew, Secretary.

EATON - Bellevue No. 1, Mrs. Nellie VanSickle.

GENESEE - Southwest Davison, Mrs. Stanley Ries.

KALAMAZOO - County Center, Mrs. Rupert Smith.

LENAWEE - Riga, Mrs. Norman Schadewald.

OCEANA - Golden, Henry A. Johnson.

Silver Star Award winners for the month of February are as follows:

ALLEGAN COUNTY - Lake Shore Community Farm Bureau Group, Mrs. R. F. Crew, Secretary.

EATON - Bellevue No. 1, Mrs. Nellie VanSickle.

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KALAMAZOO - County Center, Mrs. Rupert Smith.

LENAWEE - Riga, Mrs. Norman Schadewald.

OCEANA - Golden, Henry A. Johnson.

Silver Star Award winners for the month of February are as follows:



You Can't Prevent This



you can protect yourself Financially

with State Mutual's "All-In-One" Protection Plan

After the storm is over you're thankful the family's safe... thankful the damage wasn't worse.

You're thankful, too, that State Mutual Insurance Co. will go to work settling your claim promptly and efficiently.

There's no substitute for 46 years of experience and professional skill when you want complete settlement with no question of WHO pays for WHAT.

There's less paper work, quicker action the State Mutual way.

POLICY COMPANY AGENT PREMIUM

State Mutual Insurance Company 703 Church Street, Flint 3, Michigan E. B. DINOMAN, Pres. - H. E. FISK, Secretary

State Mutual insures Every Fifth Farm in Michigan... ask your Neighbor!

CLINTON - DeWitt-Lansing, Mrs. Cecil Rhynard.

HURON - Chandler, Mrs. Mabel Born.

PRESQUE ISLE - South Belknap, Mrs. John Brege.

TUSCOLA - Fremont, Mrs. Ward Smith.

Gold Star Award winners for the month of March are as follows:

GENESEE - North Genesee, Mrs. Gordon Rockwell.

INGHAM - Dexter Trail, Mrs. Frank Nethaway.

Silver Star Award winners for the month of March are as follows:

ALCONA - Barton City, Alexander Stephenson.

PRESQUE ISLE - South Belknap, Mrs. John Brege.

Expect Fire Insurance Program to Start in May

(Continued from Page 1)

SALE of the surplus certificates is being completed by agents of Farm Bureau Mutual who are licensed security salesmen. It is expected that the issuance of charter policies will be underway in May.

Although Farm Bureau Mutual celebrated its fifth anniversary only recently, it already serves nearly three-quarters of Michigan's Farm Bureau families through automobile, truck and farm liability insurance. Its companion organization, the Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, began operation two and a half years ago and has broken many records for growth.

Michigan Men Lead Fight For Farm Bill

The Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors on April 6 urged Congress to increase substantially the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture appropriation for research and agr'l extension service as recommended by President Eisenhower and Secretary Benson.

This action was in accord with resolutions adopted by the Michigan Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau annual meetings in the fall of 1953. The Farm Bureau said agriculture needs to find new markets, new uses for farm products, and new ways to lower costs.

APRIL 12 the House in Congress adopted a \$21,000,000 addition for agr'l research and agr'l extension as recommended and sent the bill to the U. S. Senate.

But back of that is quite a story in which the Farm Bureau and Michigan Congressmen had an important part.

When the \$21,000,000 increase for agr'l research and agr'l extension came before the House sub-committee on agr'l appropriations, it was attacked by committee members under pressure to divert funds from agr'l extension to other agencies of the USDA. They had the votes to reduce the President's recommendation considerably.

CONGRESSMEN E. A. Cederberg and Gerald Ford of Michigan, members of the committee, reasoned with the group that the long-range solution of agr'l production and marketing problems lies in research. But the sub-committee majority wouldn't budge.

When the bill reached the House floor Representatives Cederberg, Ford and others put their views before the House. They were supported by many members of Congress, including the Michigan delegation. Several amendments were offered to restore the appropriation to \$21,000,000 for agr'l research and agr'l extension. Democrats and Republicans adopted the amendments by overwhelming majorities.

April 6 the MFB board of directors estimated that Michigan's

How Kalamazoo Honors Former Directors

Here is a program that is worthy of consideration by all County Farm Bureaus.

FOR FOUR years the Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau board of directors has invited former members of the board to attend one of the regular meetings of the County Board. They want to keep those people in touch with the Farm Bureau program in the county.

Mrs. Mabel Bacon, secretary of the Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau, gives us the details on the program for this year. Past board members and their spouses were invited to a dinner on April 3 at Schensul's Cafeteria in Kalamazoo. The group attending included 16 past directors, including seven past presidents of the county organization.

AFTER the dinner, the regular monthly meeting of the County Board was held. Plans for the county picnic were completed. A committee was appointed to work on a Farm Management Tour to be held in Kalamazoo County on August 6. Reports were made by the Regional Representative, Mr. Clare McGhan, and the state Farm Bureau Director, Mr. Russell Hazel. The Board heard a report on legislation under consideration in Lansing given by Representative Cyril Root of Kalamazoo.

County Farm Bureau President Austin Bingham says that this program is very effective in keeping the people of the county organization united in interest. It also gives an opportunity to bring former officers into the activity programs of the county.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified advertisements are cash with order at the following rates: 10 cents per word for one edition. Ads to appear in two or more editions take the rate of 8 cents per word edition. These rates based on guarantee of 50,000 or more subscribers. They are members of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

LIVESTOCK

REGISTERED Hereford breeding stock. Sired by JP Proud Mixer 69, John Weiler, Tekonsha R-1, Michigan. Telephone 3223. (5-21-17p)

MILKING SHORTHORNS - We won Premier Breeder award at the recent 1953 Michigan State Fair, our 10th in 11 years. Take a short-cut to success by heading your herd with young bull from Ingleside Farm. Write or visit Stanley M. Powell, Ionia, R-1, Michigan. (10-1f-57b)

REGISTERED Tamworth boars, ready for service. Full boars and gilts. Bred gilts. Booking orders now for spring weaning pigs. Suffolk sheep, and Toy Terrier dogs. Phil Hopkins, Homer, Michigan. (3-31-29p)

CORRIEALD SHEEP - Does your flock shed 10 lbs. or more of long staple wool? If not, ask your sheep shearer about using a Corriedale ram in that part of your flock you save your replacement ewe to 100% profit. No E. Mikesell, Charlotte, R-4, Michigan. (3-1f-40b)

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"PROOF OF THE PUDDING is in the eating" and the proof of a roof's actual worth is in its weather wearing ability. Unico-Seal roofing carries the Seal of Quality (6 ounce zinc coated) Identification. Patrons purchasing galvanized roofing with this seal are assured of a known specification. Write for free information and the name of your nearest dealer. Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Steel Department, 221 North Cedar Street, PO Box 960, Lansing, Michigan. (1-1f-71b)

AGENTS

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SPRAY PAINTING of farms and farm equipment our specialty. All work is backed by seven-years' experience. Never a dissatisfied customer. All repair work to roof, siding, window glazing included in one low price. For a thorough job, well done, call or write for information and free estimate. Thomas C. Schulz, Spray Painting, 325 Cleo St., Lansing, Mich. Phone 2-4103. (5-21-48p)

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TOILETS, Septic Tanks, Cess Pools cleaned, deodorized. Amazing power saves digging, pumping. Circular free. Solvex, Monticella, Iowa. (5-11-17p)

M'Donald Cream'ry Management Side

McDonald Cooperative Dairy members gave unqualified support to their cooperative's opposition to legalizing bulk milk dispensers at the 11th annual meeting on March 30th at Flint. A resolution sharply criticizing Michigan Farm Bureau activities in favor of bulk milk dispensers passed unanimously and in two hours over 1,000 members signed a petition urging Senate defeat of the bulk milk dispenser bill. (From the McDonald Cooperator for April, 1954.)

As Told to Us by A Creamery Patron

Editor's Note: This letter is from a Farm Bureau member who attended the McDonald Cooperative Dairy Co. annual meeting at Flint March 30:

Yesterday, March 30, we attended the annual meeting of McDonald Co-op Dairy, of which we are a patron and member, held in the I.M.A. auditorium in Flint. All members were asked to register

upon entering. Later we learned that we had signed a petition to be presented to the State Senate.

This petition, of course, is in opposition to Bill H-249. There was also a place on the petition to designate if we are Farm Bureau members.

Manager W. McDonald in his talk to the group said with a note of sarcasm in his voice that anyone wishing to do so could go out and erase their name. This was right after he had told us what we had signed.

Mr. McDonald spent some time in lambasting Farm Bureau for their stand on various farm issues and seemed to arouse some anti-Farm Bureau feeling. There were about 270 voting members at the meeting.

(signed) Farm Bureau Member. March 31, 1954

(Editor - We have the original letter in our file. We have withheld the name and address of the writer.)

Keep and use flammable cleaning fluids at a distance from any spark or flame - never in the same room.

How can you know what your next hospital bill will cost you?

You can't know! You can't predict whether \$10 a day... \$15 a day... or any limited amount per day will take care of the hospital bill that your family has a 1 in 3 chance of facing this year!

Unpredictable as hospital bills are, there is one reliable and easy way to protect your family adequately against "catastrophic" expense that can exceed even \$50 a day!

Get the protection that provides not a check for \$10 or \$15 a day, but the bed and board, the drugs and medicines, the operating room, and the many other hospital services you need.

Get Blue Cross protection!

Not for profit, Blue Cross is sponsored by the hospitals and doctors themselves. It is the most successful idea ever devised for meeting the problem of paying hospital bills.

No wonder over 3,000,000 Michigan people have Blue Cross. Chances are, your neighbor is protected the Blue Cross way. Talk it over with him... and see if he doesn't agree that there is no finer protection at any price!

How Blue Cross protects you. Blue Cross Comprehensive Group Plan assures you of a wide range of hospital services... such as bed and board, expensive extras like operating room, drugs and medicines, oxygen and so forth. And every enrolled member in your family is protected the same way at over 200 Blue Cross participating hospitals in Michigan alone!

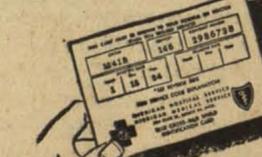
How Blue Shield protects you. Unlike paying hospital bills, you can find out in advance what your doctor's charges will be. The thing you can't find out is when you'll need a doctor's services, and here is where Blue Shield protects you.

Blue Shield offers two basic plans - one, a straight surgical plan, the other, a medical-surgical plan. Under either plan, Blue Shield pays generous, specific amounts directly to your doctor for thousands of surgical procedures, including maternity care. And in non-surgical cases, under the medical-surgical plan, Blue Shield also pays liberal amounts for your doctor's visits to you in the hospital. Often the doctor's full bill is covered.

The cost is low. Only pennies per day! You can help keep costs low... by using Blue Cross - Blue Shield only when necessary. Please do not ask your doctor to put you in the hospital for diagnostic treatment which could just as easily be performed in his office.

How to get Blue Cross - Blue Shield. Ask your employer or union representative how you can get low-cost Group Enrollment. A company with as few as five employees may qualify as a Group. Check your Farm Bureau or Grange. Contact your nearest Blue Cross - Blue Shield office.

BLUE CROSS - BLUE SHIELD Michigan Hospital Service - Michigan Medical Service 234 State Street, Detroit 26



Your Ticket to Worry-Free Recovery

BLUE CROSS-BLUE SHIELD have more Michigan members than all other plans combined!

FB Services in Far-Reaching Finance Program

Retiring Old Stock On Rotation Plan

Plans Made to Increase Farmer-Owned Capital in Services Through Investment and Retains

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. is engaged in a far-reaching financial program which includes a continuous retirement of patronage dividend and investment stock on a rotation basis.

We have asked Jack Yaeger, general manager of Farm Bureau Services, to tell us about it.

"The way is now open," said Mr. Yaeger, to retire the older outstanding patronage dividend and investment stock of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., on what we hope is to be an ever shortening rotation plan. The way is open to build up the equity capital farmers and their cooperatives have invested in Farm Bureau Services.



J. F. YAEGER

"We feel certain that over the period of years we can retire the stock now outstanding. We have analyzed the Farm Bureau Services business over a long period of time. We have projected the information on our earning power into the future. Our experience demonstrates that this financing program can be accomplished.

"The rapidity with which this can be done depends, of course, upon the volume of business done with Farm Bureau Services by farmers' cooperatives and farmers.

"Under a policy set by the Farm Bureau Services board of directors, there will be no expansion of Farm Bureau Services activities unless farmers wanting a new service, or a building program, will subscribe the new capital for it.

RETIREMENT of Farm Bureau Services patronage dividend and investment stock on a rotation schedule was approved by the stockholders at their annual meeting in 1951. The plan has been in operation for the past two years.

"March 2 to 19, 1954, Lee Monroe, comptroller for Farm Bureau Services, Maynard Brownlee, manager of our Farm Supplies Division, and myself met with the managers and directors of 152 farmers' elevator stockholders of Farm Bureau Services. We met to present and discuss the FBS long range finance program, and to consider the benefits to them and to FBS in the rotation of Farm Bureau Services stock.

"PRESENTLY we are retiring stock that is 13 years old. In 1953 Farm Bureau Services called in for retirement \$42,000 of patronage dividend stock issued in 1941. This year we are retiring patronage dividend stock issued in 1942, and possibly stock for other years.

"We want to get back as soon as possible to the 8 year rotation period which Farm Bureau Services had in effect just before the fertilizer plant was built at Saginaw in 1946.

"IN ORDER to build the Saginaw plant, we suspended the rotation plan temporarily and sold about \$1,000,000 of Farm Bureau Services debentures to farmers' cooperatives and Farm Bureau members.

"The debentures were called in July, 1953. Two-thirds of the investors chose to replace their debentures with Farm Bureau Services 15 years capital stock bearing 5% interest. About one-third of the investors took cash.

"The new fertilizer plant built at Kalamazoo in 1953 and 1954 has been financed by the sale of about \$1,000,000 of the 15 year 5% capital stock of Farm Bureau Services."

Farmers Face Problem in Water Supply

DAN REED
Ass't Legislative Counsel

More than 1,800 irrigation systems are now on Michigan farms. Yet there is no basic law to assure the operator's right to continued supplies of water.

ABOUT 60,000 acres were given "artificial rain" last year. It is estimated that two to three million acres in Michigan might profitably be given extra water. Irrigation systems which usually cost \$5,000 or more would have only salvage value unless adequate water supplies are available.

Agricultural use of water is only one phase of the problem, it was pointed out at the recent conference on Water Use Rights held at Michigan State College. Senator Frank Heath of Bay City, chairman of the Interim Legislative Committee on Water Management, was chairman. Water uses listed at the meeting include industry, power, farming, home use, recreation, wild life, commercial fishing and navigation.

FARMERS' water problems change with the seasons. Spring-time problems of too much water become summer problems of need for extra water. Demands for water go up in summer when streams and lakes are usually at low levels.

Lawsuits threaten users of both surface and ground or deep-well water when other people are affected.

Lowering of lake or stream levels or the drying up of wells may be caused by heavy use of water. The city of Berkley in Oakland county reports that water levels in their wells have dropped 53 feet in twenty years.

A SPOT check on the Red Cedar river at East Lansing showed a summertime flow during a dry spell of only 1,500 gallons per minute. An average farm irrigation system pumps about 500 to 600 gallons per minute. If three farmers upstream put in such irrigation systems, the Red Cedar would be dry! This would present a problem for Michigan State College and the city of East Lansing which depend on this stream to move the discharge from their sewage disposal systems.

These examples point up the need for legislation determining who has the right to the use of available water. Western areas have faced the issue. At least 17 states have reasonably well-defined water laws. In the eastern states, however, users face many legal problems as the competition for water use increases. Adequate laws have not been set up to guide the courts and water users.

WITH 3,000 miles of Great Lakes' coastline, over 11,000 inland lakes and 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, it is easy to see why Michigan has not in the

past been worried about water shortages.

Modern living is taking its toll of water resources, however. Use of water for domestic purposes per person has increased from eight gallons per day a few years ago to nearly one hundred gallons today. In addition, our population has more than doubled in the last forty years and is continuing to increase.

In its closing days, the legislature adopted a measure setting up a water study committee. This is in line with the Michigan Farm Bureau resolution adopted at our 1953 annual meeting. The resolution states:

"The increasing use of water for irrigation as well as for industrial and domestic purposes indicates that Michigan is fast approaching the time when laws setting up the legal right to the

use of water will be needed. We recommend that the legislature take the necessary steps to initiate such a program."

Oats

If you plant oats on land where corn had been picked the previous year, you may get less oats than if you had harvested corn silage. M.S.C. farm cropsmen suggest. Reason: Corn stalks tie up nitrogen when they're plowed down.

Buy Farm Bureau Feeds.

Hog Cholera May Return This Year

Don't be surprised if you see a big flareup of hog cholera this year, with thousands of dollars' loss to Michigan farmers. Dr. Glen Reed, Michigan State College's extension veterinarian, says records indicate that the

virus of this worst-of-all swine killers has been left in hundreds of rural areas by outbreaks of last year and earlier. Vaccination of pigs before the outbreak is the only proved protection, Dr. Reed emphasizes. But remember, he cautions, different types of vaccinations are recommended under varying circumstances. Have your veterinarian select the type you should use.

Buy Farm Bureau Feeds.



ORDER JANSSEN'S "Dutch Boy" TURKEY POULTS

Profit Proven Producers U. S. APPROVED - U. S. PULLORUM CLEAN

SEXED TOMS

as low as 59c

*BROAD BREAST BRONZE Maximum tonnage of quality meat birds on lower feed consumption.

*BELTSVILLE WHITES Hardy birds with excellent broiler type characteristics.

*BROAD BREAST WHITES Extra large type white feathered broad breasts.

*JERSEY BUFFS Highly efficient feed converters. Choice market birds.



"JAY"

Send for FREE Literature JANSSEN FARMS HATCHERIES Box MF-700 Zeeland, Michigan

HOW MANY MILES WILL THIS TANKER TRAVEL DURING MAY

Mileage CONTEST

FREE

- TRIP To The WORLD SERIES
- TRIPS To The INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

MOTOR OIL — Here is a top quality serviceable motor oil reinforced with additives (chemical improvers) to meet the qualifications necessary for the operation of present day motors in tractors, trucks and automobiles. Why not order ten gallons today and take your chance to go to the World Series this fall.

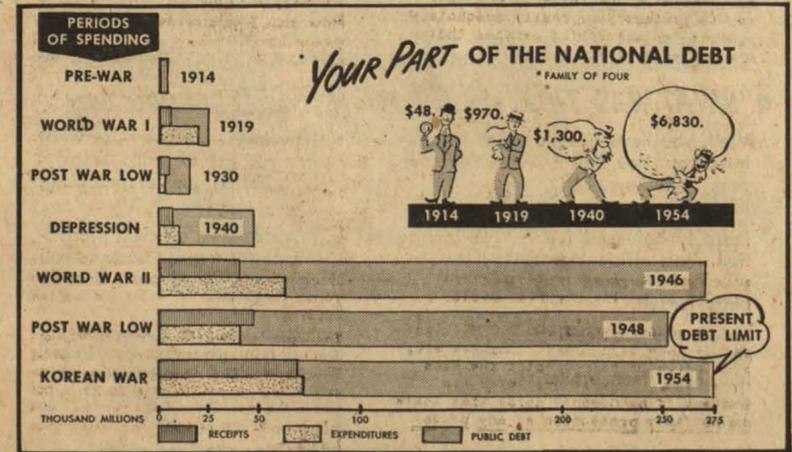
TIRES — UNICO tires and tubes are built by one of the oldest and best tire manufacturers in the country. They are all top quality, first line products. The potential buying power of United Co-ops (eleven state-wide farmers' cooperatives) is reflected in the prices of Unico tires and tubes. One tire will make you eligible for a guess in the mileage contest.

BATTERIES — No matter what you pay you can't buy a better battery than a CO-OP Battery with spun glass insulation. This battery exceeds S.A.E. starting ability requirements by more than 35%! Buy one and take a chance in the big mileage contest today!!

FLY SPRAY — UNICO fly spray provides effective protection against things that crawl or fly. 100% active ingredients. Use on all farm pests, on garbage cans, drain outlets, rubbish heaps etc. 10 gallons of Unico fly spray will give you a chance at the World Series trip.

GASOLINE — Fill up your tanks with CO-OP gasoline. Once you have tried it you won't go back to your old kind. 40 gallons will give you an opportunity to enter the mileage contest now in progress at your nearest dealer.

Farm Bureau Says It's Like This



THE AMERICAN Farm Bureau says: The United States government spent \$74,300,000,000 last year. In only three other years has spending exceeded that amount. Those were war years—1943, 1944 and 1945.

In only three years in the last 20 years have receipts into the federal treasury exceeded expenditures.

TAXES have been increased greatly, but not enough money is being collected to pay the expenses.

What we need is a wise management of government tax and spending policies directed toward

keeping our money good and our economy prosperous.

This means that tax and spending policies must be adjusted from time to time to help us avoid both inflation and deflation. Our objective should be a relatively stable general price level with high employment and rising production.

EXPENDITURES should be brought within tax revenues as rapidly as possible.

No segment of our economy, including agriculture, should be spared from participation in efforts to achieve a balanced budget.

Tax reduction is preferable to increased government spending as a method of encouraging business activity and employment.

A JOINT committee on the Budget—to coordinate revenues with expenditures should be established.

All self-supporting persons should make a direct contribution to the support of the federal government. When the budgetary situation permits further reduction in income taxes, we would prefer a reduction in rates, particularly in the lower brackets, in preference to higher exemptions.

100 OTHER WINNERS — In addition to the above prizes there will be a prize awarded to the contestant that comes the closest in each CO-OP tankwagon area, and in addition there will be a prize awarded the patron that comes the closest to the correct miles in each CO-OP service station area.

I have qualified for the mileage contest and the number of miles I believe that the new transport will drive during the month of May is as follows:

TO:

FROM:

SALESMAN:

DATE:

Patron:

Address:

Dealer:

The above has qualified by making a \$10.00 purchase of F.P.C. Commodities.

Farmers Petroleum Coop., 221 N. Cedar St., LANSING, MICH.

A Quickie Plan for Building Sand Land Soils

Now Operating On 6,000 Acres

KEATS VINING
Agricultural News Writer

A combination of lime, fertilizer, buckwheat, and rye will rebuild many acres of sandy soil in northern Michigan. The same methods can be used on sandy soils anywhere.

Orville Walker of Alba, Antrim county, school teacher, farmer, and extension worker has proved the program on his own farm north of Alba.

It's good enough so that the Agricultural Conservation Program has approved the Walker soil improvement program and will make payments for them.

Thousands of acres of pine and hardwood timber grew on lighter types of soils. Over the years there was an accumulation of organic matter in the top soil.

With the lumber cut and carried away, the land was cleared and farmed.

But a cropping system of potatoes and other row crops, with little regard for the organic matter, soon depleted the soil. The next thing was the abandonment of many farms.

Mr. Walker as a school teacher and extension worker in that part of the state saw the abandoned farms. He bought one and started to restore the organic matter in the soil. He succeeded with a combination of lime, commercial fertilizer, buckwheat, and rye.

In the last few years over 1000 farmers and teachers visited the Walker farm to see the results of his work. There have been out of state visitors. Walker has been working at this program for the past 15 years.

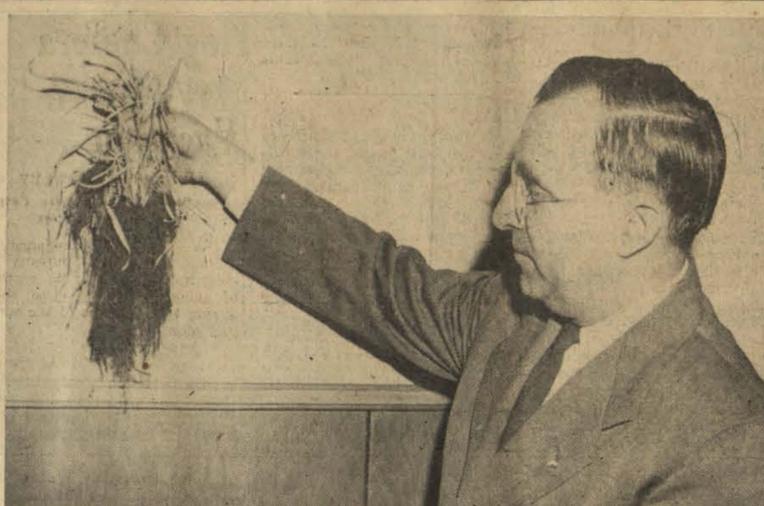
THE WALKER program is a simple one. If there is quick grass it should be eliminated before the other program gets under way. The first step is to test the soil for lime and apply the amount of lime needed.

BUCKWHEAT is the first crop. It should be planted early. Just as soon as the danger of frost is past. This is usually the first of June in Antrim county. Sow five to six pecks per acre. With the seed sow 400 pounds of 10-10-10 or a similar amount of 12-12-12. Mr. Walker used the 12-12-12 fertilizer for five years.

The buckwheat should be 3 1/2 to 4 feet high by August 1. The buckwheat should have a lot of growth.

It should be turned down when in full bloom and when the lower leaves start to turn brown. Don't let it ripen. Mr. Walker finds that cultipacking the buckwheat down, and following that with a 22 or 24-inch disc, then plowing does a good job.

THE NEXT step is to sow rye about August 15. It can be later in the southern part of the state.



ORVILLE WALKER, associate county agricultural agent for Kalkaska county, holds a clump of rye to show the top and root growth. Rye is a definite part of Mr. Walker's "quickie program" to restore sand lands.

Corn and potatoes can be sidedressed to advantage with nitrogen.

Mr. Walker insists there are some "musts" in the program. The green manure crops must be planted on time. Lime and plenty of commercial fertilizers must be used to get the best results. The green manure must be well incorporated into the soil.

COST? What does the Walker plan cost? Tillage will cost about \$13 per acre. If there is no quick grass, it will be less.

Fertilizer and seed costs will run to about \$40 per acre, making a total cost of \$53 per acre. The ACP payments will vary up to \$20 per acre. The larger amount will be paid if there is a full treatment of lime, fertilizer, and green manures.

TWENTY counties in the upper part of the lower peninsula are eligible for payments. Mr. Walker has held 15 meetings in these counties to discuss the program. Between 600 and 700 farmers have signed for the plan. This would mean about 6,000 acres of land involved.

It will mean a need for a half-million pounds of buckwheat and 5,000,000 pounds of either 10-10-10 or 12-12-12 fertilizers. Both are available.

Mr. Walker told the farmers that crop yields should be the measuring stick of the amount of organic matter in the soil. When crop yields go down, it means get more organic matter in the soil.

FARMERS have tried to build up sandy land with alfalfa. Generally there is a failure, due to the lack of organic matter.

Mr. Walker grows foundation seed potatoes, asparagus roots, and rhubarb roots. He has a two, three, four, and five-year rotation. His potatoes yield from 350

to 450 bushels per acre without irrigation.

When Mr. Walker finds his yields dropping in a rotation, he drops the rotation and gets more organic matter in the soil. He also recommends that this soil-building program be used where there is livestock with the manure used to top dress hay and pasture crops.

What About Your Oil and Gas Rights?

DAN REED
Ass't Legislative Counsel

"It will pay to know the extent of your rights rather than find out too late that assumed rights do not exist," said Edwin F. Steffen, legal counsel of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Any interference by the owner of surface rights with the lessee's pursuit of his mineral, coal, oil or gas rights could lead to a damage suit of sizable proportions.

Much state-owned land has been sold with mineral rights reserved, and many private land transfers also have reserved all or a portion of those rights. In some cases the mineral reservations go back to the days when lumber companies were disposing of cut-over lands and were impressed with coal, iron and copper discoveries in both upper and lower peninsula.

MINERAL rights may be bought, sold or leased. However, Public Act 280, Acts of 1900, requires that in the case of mineral, coal, oil and gas reservations retained by the state, the owner of the surface shall be given priority in case of sale of such rights.

In 1936 a Michigan Supreme Court decision held that leasing the oil and gas rights does not constitute a sale. Hence, the state may lease to the highest bidder without prior consent of the surface owner.

Drilling regulations, according to Mr. Steffen, require a ten-acre minimum unit. The well must be located at least 330 feet from an adjoining lease or property line and at least 600 feet from another well.

RULES also provide oil tanks may not be installed within 75 feet of any building and wells must be located at least 75 feet from buildings. The requirements listed above are subject to special consideration in unusual cases.

Mr. Steffen also says that the term "mineral rights" generally includes oil and gas rights as well as the solid minerals such as coal or iron ore. However, the language of the reservation must be carefully considered to see whether it is used in a broad sense or whether it is used in a restricted sense. In the restricted sense it might not apply to oil and gas.

SUCH reservations usually protect the right of the owner of the reservation or his agents or lessees to go upon the land to drill for oil or search for minerals. He is liable for any damages to crops and surface developments.

"Each case must be studied on its own merits," says Mr. Steffen. "If you have a problem involving the mineral, coal, oil and gas rights on your property, you should seek advice from your lawyer."

Hybrid Corn

Michigan farmers should select early-maturing corn hybrids. Past performances of the hybrids can be found in Extension Folder F-87, available at county extension offices.

How Farm Bureau Did in Legislature

(Continued from Page 1)

of five members of the House Committee on Agriculture. They will look into the whole situation and present their recommendations to the 1955 legislative session. This is certainly right in line with the Farm Bureau attitude toward reaching a sound solution of a truly baffling situation.

OAK WILT. The delegates had called attention to the seriousness of a new tree disease known as Oak Wilt and had asked that steps be taken to curb it. A substantial appropriation for this purpose was included in the grant for the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

HEALTH REGULATIONS. Regardless of how many resolutions the delegates might adopt it seems that there are always new issues which arise regarding which we have no instructions. These matters are considered by the Legislative Committee of the MFB Board and any recommendations which they make are acted upon by the MFB board of directors. By this procedure the Board endorsed a measure to require that rules and regulations adopted by the health committee of a board of supervisors must be approved by a majority vote of the supervisors before becoming effective. This measure passed both the House and Senate and has been signed by the Governor.

FLORICULTURE. The MFB Directors also favored a bill including persons handling floricultural products under the Commission Merchant act. This passed both branches of the Legislature.

CORPORATIONS. The Directors favored a bill to extend the time for renewing charters of non-profit corporations. This was enacted.

BILLS OPPOSED. It seems to me that frequently the most valuable legislative service rendered by the Michigan Farm Bureau is in opposing measures which would be detrimental rather than in supporting bills which we favor. Let's take a look at some proposals which came up during the recent session but which were defeated either in committee or on the floor.

ASSESSORS. The delegates had protested against replacing township supervisors as assessing officers by a county assessor. This opposition proved so effective that, although such a bill had been drafted, no member of the Senate or House could be found who was willing to introduce it.

TAXES. Two companion bills were introduced and passed by the Senate which provided for use of state equalized values in spreading local taxes. These bills were in opposition to a resolution adopted by the delegates at the MFB Convention last November. Both bills were defeated on final passage in the House.

In this connection we should add that the Legislature acted in accordance with a Farm Bureau recommendation and provided for preparation and distribution of an assessor's manual to assist local assessing officers in discharging their responsibilities in the most satisfactory manner.

SPEED LIMIT. The delegates had questioned whether a speed limit is the answer to highway traffic accidents. Several bills on this subject were introduced and given consideration but none of them was approved.

ELECTRICAL. Another bill which the Farm Bureau opposed and which was defeated would have established a state electrical administrative board and set up

strict controls over electrical wiring. This proposal bobs up every year, but thus far has been kept in check.

ELECTIONS. Increasing the length of terms of office for state and county officials from two to four years was opposed by the Farm Bureau. A proposed constitutional amendment which would have provided for four-year terms was approved by the Senate but defeated decisively in the House.

CONSTITUTION. Another measure which the Farm Bureau opposed and which was defeated would have involved submitting to the voters the question of calling a convention to draft a new state Constitution for Michigan.

TRUCKS. The MFB Directors went on record as opposed to a special 6,000-pound additional load limit for tandem axle trucks hauling farm products on secondary roads when travelling to and from class A roads. This bill passed the Senate but died in the House Committee on Roads and Bridges.

POLICE. The MFB Directors opposed use of highway funds for the establishment of a road patrol in the Michigan State Police. This bill died in the Senate Committee on Highways. The Directors were not favorable to the provisions of a bill relative to annual auto inspections. This bill also died in the Senate Committee on Highways.

BRIDGE BONDS. The Directors opposed SJR "H" which would place the full faith and credit of the state behind the Mackinac Bridge bonds. This, too, died in the Senate Committee on Highways.

SCHOOL BUSES. Of course, we are never completely successful in attaining our entire program in any one year. For instance, the delegates had urged that on highways carrying less than 4 or more lanes of traffic that oncoming vehicles as well as those approaching from the rear stop before passing a school bus which is loading or unloading pupils. Such a bill was passed by the Senate but died in a House committee.

SCHOOL LAWS. The MFB Board had endorsed the new school code to make Michigan school laws more simple and understandable. This was approved by the House but the Senators decided that it should be studied for another year before being adopted.

CONCLUSION. The above report is by no means complete but does give the highlights of the 1954 legislative session from the standpoint of Farm Bureau members. It is certainly a good record in view of the fact that farm folks constitute a minor

and ever-decreasing fraction of the state's total population.

It is becoming generally recognized that Farm Bureau folks devote more time and study to the development of their legislative program than does any other group. After having adopted their resolutions the members do

Lab for Studying Livestock Disease

After years of delay, the long-awaited federal laboratory for research on livestock diseases is expected to be under construction by July.

The Michigan Farm Bureau at its 1953 annual meeting approved the appropriation of \$10,000,000 to build facilities on Plum Island in Long Island Sound, off the coast of New York. The army is also turning over the existing re-

not abandon them. They keep talking and writing about these matters and let their lawmakers know how they feel about these issues. The long hours spent by Farm Bureau members in P. D. (Policy Development) and P. X. (Policy Execution) have been paying off with handsome dividends.

search establishment on Plum Island.

Establishment of this laboratory will make possible the study of foot-and-mouth disease and other contagious animal diseases. It is hoped that the development will be in operation by January 1956.

Egg Prices Down

Egg prices are down and heavy hen prices up. This is one of the best times to cull.

MAY AND JUNE TORNADO MONTHS IN MICHIGAN

Tornadoes are a menace to the life and property of almost every person living in Michigan • It is a fact that damage from tornadoes and windstorms tends to increase each year • In the past 5 years this company paid 63,342 losses, amounting to \$3,572,476.67.

REMEMBER IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU! Check Your Windstorm Policy to see if you have ADEQUATE COVERAGE

This company is the largest of its kind in Michigan and the second largest of its kind in the world, with wide spread coverage and strong assets. Re-insured by Lloyds of London as further protection against windstorms of gigantic proportions.

MICHIGAN MUTUAL WINDSTORM INSURANCE CO. HASTINGS MICHIGAN



... YOU Know Best!

FIXED CHARGES MUST BE PAID — MANUFACTURERS FIND THAT THE MORE UNITS PRODUCED, THE LOWER THE FIXED CHARGES ARE AGAINST EACH UNIT.

The wheat grower (a manufacturer of wheat) finds the same answer. 120 lbs. of Ammonium Nitrate (at \$5.00 per 100 lbs.) costs \$6.00. Put this 120 lbs. on an acre of wheat. The colleges say the average increase is 5 bushels of wheat. This is worth about \$2.00 per bushel or \$10.00 more per acre \$10 - \$6 = \$4. These \$4.00 are extra and help pay the overhead and leave more profit.

"WHAT HAS THIS TO DO WITH FEED" -- you say

Well, you have fixed charges on cows—chickens—hogs—turkeys—or what have you. You find it difficult to control the price you get for milk—eggs—pork or turkeys. BUT—no one tries to stop you lowering cost of producing these items.

Properly balanced feed, in earned quantities, produce most efficient production. Most efficient production means the best chance for a profit because you usually have more pounds of milk, dozens of eggs, pounds of pork, beef or birds to sell.

Unless you are feeding wastefully, don't let anyone tell you it pays to cut down on the quantity of feed (properly balanced) you give that good cow, hen, hog, steer, broiler or turkey. The extra production the proper ration produces is where the extra income comes from because extra production usually means lower cost per unit.

If it doesn't pay to feed properly, it usually doesn't pay to feed at all.

Farm Bureau feeds are open formula. You know what you buy. Milkmaker or Cattle Supplement 48% for cows—Faro-Ettes (pre-creep feed) — Creep-Ettes (up to weaning time) and Porkmakers 35% and 125 for hogs—M.V.P. mashes for laying hens and growing turkeys. Hi-N-R-G Chick Starter and Broiler Mash for baby chicks—Pre Starter 28% for poults. All are made for Value-In-Use on YOUR FARM.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC. FEED DEPARTMENT

221 N. Cedar Street Lansing, Michigan



FARM FACTS from MICHIGAN BELL



Which End Is Up?

When it comes to packing eggs, specialists at Michigan State College say it really matters which end is up. Experiments show there's a good practical reason for making sure that eggs are packed large end up. If the egg is packed with the small end up, the yolk may go off center. For an egg to merit an "A" grading, its yolk must be well centered, with the air cell on top in the large end.



Can Foods Be Stored in Opened Cans?

Yes. It's perfectly safe to do so. Thanks to modern canning methods, there is no dangerous chemical action between the metal in cans and the foods they contain. This is true of all canned foods, even the sour ones. The important thing is to make sure the cans are properly refrigerated, regardless of the utensils in which they are stored. Foods not refrigerated will spoil soon after cans are opened.



Visits When You Want Them

How often do you wish you could visit with loved ones far away, but simply couldn't spare the time? Next time you get that feeling, just lift your phone and call them Long Distance. A telephone call will mean a lot to those who mean a lot to you. And the cost is surprisingly low. On Sundays or after 6 p.m. weekdays you can call "station-to-station" anywhere in the U.S.A. for less than \$2, plus the federal excise tax of 10%.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

Barry Co. FB Members Start Group Life Plan

First of Its Kind In the Nation

National attention has been attracted to a unique program by which more than 600 members of the Barry County Farm Bureau have succeeded in obtaining the special advantages of group life insurance.

This achievement, which was celebrated with a victory party at Hastings April 20, is significant to all Michigan Farm Bureau members because the same opportunity is open to them.

The chief advantage of group life insurance is its unusually low cost. Millions of industrial employees have obtained this protection. It is considered so valuable as an employment benefit that the biggest unions have insisted upon it in their contracts with management.

Now, because of the success of the Barry County program, Farm Bureau members throughout Michigan will have their first opportunity to obtain the same kind of protection. The amount of active interest shown by each county and community group will be an important influence determining how soon group life insurance can be made available in any particular area.

One of the chief reasons why group life insurance is economical arises from the fact that policyholders apply in groups rather than as individuals. In this respect it is much like Blue Cross. In order for any group to become eligible, a high percentage of the members of the group must apply for the protection.

In Barry County much of the canvassing to measure the members' interest was undertaken by volunteers from community groups. Twenty-two of the 33 community groups in Barry County qualified for group life protection immediately, and it is expected that others will qualify before the final results are tabulated.

Don Proefrock, of the Barry County Farm Bureau board, was chairman of his county's group life sponsoring committee, and the project received overall assistance from Wesley Hawley, state coordinator of Community Farm Bureaus.

IN HASTINGS April 20 the success of the program was observed with a special event honoring some 50 volunteers, and their wives. Mr. Proefrock participated in the meeting, along with Keith Tanner, state manager of the Farm Bureau's Mem-



NILE VERMILLION, manager of Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, presents the first Group Life certificate for Farm Bureau members to members of the Group Life Committee of Barry County Farm Bureau at the victory dinner for workers at Hastings, April 20. Receiving his certificate is Lloyd Hoffman of Hickory Corners. Other members of the committee are (left) Lloyd Brecheisen of Woodland, (right) Donald Proefrock, chairman, of Hastings.

ber Service Division; Nile L. Vermillion, manager of the Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.; W. C. Conley, assistant manager, and J. Burton Richards, sales promotion supervisor.

Because group life protection for farmers has been almost unknown heretofore, the Barry County experiment has attracted considerable attention both in life insurance circles and among Farm Bureaus in other states. Even before the results were known it was receiving national publicity.

AS OTHER counties signify interest and their willingness to support the necessary educational activity, group life insurance also will be made available to them. The group policies offer \$1,000 in basic life insurance to each adult member of the Farm Bureau group. This, it is pointed out, provides for emergency cash and can become an important part of each family's long-range program for building family and farm security.

Good housekeeping practices in poultry houses will automatically reduce the rat population on your farm, say MSC poultry specialists.

Removal of Diseased Orchards

DAN E. REED
Ass't Legislative Counsel, MFB

The appropriation for the removal of diseased and neglected orchards will probably be about \$25,000 or a little less, according to Dean Lovitt of the Bureau of Plant Industry in the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

CONTINUATION of the orchard and vineyard removal program was recommended in a resolution approved at the annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Nov. 12-13, 1953.

Under this program, about 100,000 fruit trees have been removed annually. Since 1945, when the law was enacted, more than a million trees have been removed, with apples making about 65% of the total.

THE COST of removing trees under this program has been slightly less than 20c per tree.

The work is done by local bulldozer operators under direction of the Department of Agriculture.

Orchards removed under this program must be located in commercial fruit areas and must be neglected and diseased or insect-infested. Trees that are simply over-age, or of undesirable varieties, or orchards not threatening to infect commercial orchards are not eligible to be removed under the program. C. A. Boyer, head of the Bureau of Plant Industry, estimates that there are another million trees that should be removed in commercial fruit areas.

Rep. Wolcott for Flexible Support

Congressman Jesse Wolcott of Port Huron said in a radio program at Washington April 25 that the government has enough fats and oils in storage "to fill tank cars to encircle the globe four times." He blamed rigid price supports for the situation.

Secretary Benson's program for flexible price supports, said Mr. Wolcott, not only would help in getting rid of the surpluses but would give farmers a relatively higher income in terms of purchasing power.

Farm Issues Don't Take Vacation

WESLEY S. HAWLEY
Coordinator, Community Farm Bureau Activities

The matter of attendance at Community Farm Bureaus is most important. It is the custom of some groups to close shop during two or three of the summer months.

Probably this question will be discussed by some of the groups during the May meeting. "Shall we meet during the summer?" Be sure and weigh the whole question thoroughly before making a decision to close shop for a few months.

Attendance and participation in Community Farm Bureaus is always important. Members who attend regularly become better informed members, wise members if you please! Members who attend regularly are participating members and are usually active and aggressive in Farm Bureau through their Community group.

WHY MEET IN SUMMER?

1. Problems and issues do not take vacations.
2. The Congress of the United States is now and will continue to be wrestling with the farm program.
3. This is an election year. It is important that members and others plan and carry on good citizenship activities.
4. We must meet and act to have a real grass roots organization.

THIS is an analysis of a study of Community Farm Bureau attendance over a period of eight months:

Av. Size of Group (Members)	Average Attendance
100	11%
60	16%
30	30%
14	44%

The average number of members attending Community Farm Bureau meetings during the eight-month period was 12,558.

The average attendance was 21%. These figures are rather startling and important as well as challenging to every one of the Community Farm Bureaus.

One can readily see by the foregoing figures that comparatively few of the members attend and participate where the groups are very large. On the other hand where the groups are small the average attendance is much higher with many more people, proportionately, attending the meeting and participating.

IN THE 30th chapter of Proverbs, we have an excellent example of being wise:

"There are four things which are little upon the Earth, but they are exceeding wise.

The ants are a people not strong. Yet they provide their food in the summer.

The conies are but a feeble folk. Yet make they houses in the rocks.

The locusts have no king. Yet go they forth all of them by bands.

The lizard takes hold with her hands. Yet is she in kings' palaces."

WHO is wise? Those who continue to meet and be active throughout the year or those who close shop for a few months in the most crucial period of time?

Buy Farm Bureau Feed.

NOW! Amazing New Way to keep your silage fresh, green, sweet-smelling!

Now, General Chemical, 50-year leader in agricultural chemicals, brings you another great new farm aid. This time it's STA-FRESH—the handy, low-cost sodium bisulfite powder that keeps silage fresh, green and sweet-smelling.

STA-FRESH insures a superior feed with less work at lower cost. It is already highly recommended by many county agents and agricultural leaders. STA-FRESH has been used with success on alfalfa, orchard grass, brome grass, ladino, sweet clover, timothy, vetch, oats, other forage crops.

Cows prefer STA-FRESH-treated silage. In a typical free-choice test, cattle ate an average of 63 pounds of bisulfite-treated silage to 18 pounds of untreated silage.

STA-FRESH keeps silage sweet-smelling, too; rids it of that "silage stink" that fouls your clothes, smells up the barn, and may taint milk.

Get the facts on STA-FRESH right away. Your Orchard Brand dealer has it in 100-lb. bags—and complete details on how to use it. See him today.

STA-FRESH*

Silage Grade Sodium Bisulfite



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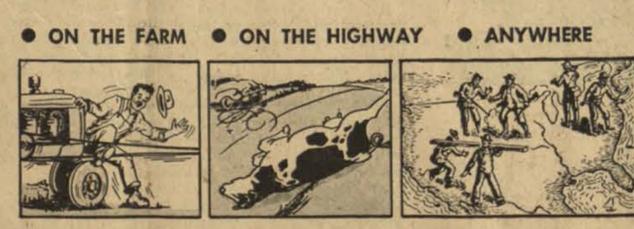
... This Could be YOU!

The financial risks you face — under modern farming hazards — are monstrous. You may be liable — under the law — for accidents that occur in the operation of your farm and your personal activities. A single judgment against you could mean the loss of — your FARM, LIVESTOCK, LIFE SAVINGS — EVEN FUTURE EARNINGS. You must be protected against this legal liability . . . Only a Farmer's Comprehensive Liability Policy can provide this protection.

Thanks To my FARM and RESIDENCE Comprehensive PERSONAL LIABILITY... Policy



Your FARM BUREAU --- Ask Your local FARM BUREAU INSURANCE AGENT to give you the facts on the Farm and Residence Comprehensive Personal Liability Protection available . . . plus the several optional coverages available. Phone him or mail in the form below — It will save you money and provide needed protection.



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FARM BUREAU Mutual Insurance Co.
OF MICHIGAN
LANSING, MICHIGAN

TO: FARM BUREAU INSURANCE SERVICES
507 S. Grand Ave.
Lansing, Michigan

Please send complete information explaining the protection provided by the Farm and Residence Comprehensive Personal Liability coverages.

I also desire medical coverage on myself and my family.

NAME _____
ADDRESS - RR# _____ POST OFFICE _____
COUNTY _____
TOWNSHIP _____

Kalamazoo Fertilizer Plant Push Button Marvel

Makes Granulated Plant Foods

Everything is Mechanical in Plant Which Will Make 40,000 Tons of High Analysis Plant Foods Per Year

Years ago you associated fertilizer plants with work and smell.

Neither exist in the new Kalamazoo plant of the Farm Bureau Services, Inc., on Olmstead road, said Roy Holding, farm editor of the Kalamazoo Gazette April 7 in an article describing the plant and its operations for readers of the Gazette farm page.

Inhale, said Mr. Holding, and you might get a noseful of dust — but no smell.

Everything is mechanical. The farmer probably handles bags of the finished product more than the 40 employees of the plant handle the raw materials.

The plant began limited output of four analyses of fertilizer recently. To April 7 just 2,000 tons of plant food have come tumbling off the bagging line as engineers work to wipe out the "bugs" in the machinery.

Before the month is over officials hope to have the plant rolling out full production — 40,000 tons of fertilizer per year.

The interior of the plant is a maze of structural steel, conveyor belts, chutes, elevators, towering wooden bins. They are all designed to eliminate labor.

PUSH-BUTTON operation. The only time a man has to handle the product is when the bag of plant food comes riding down the final conveyor. A laborer picks it up and drops it on a pallet for the waiting fork lift truck.

Otherwise it's a push-button operation—except in weighing the essential amounts that go into each two-ton batch. You don't even push a button to do that.

Lost amidst the towering columns of structural steel are walks where a man can view the operations needed to take super-phosphate, triple phosphate, potash, urea, ammonium sulphate, anhydrous ammonia, nitrogen solutions, sulphuric acid, and water and mix into granulated fertilizer.

GRANULATED plant foods are a more recent development in the fertilizer industry. They will not cake in storage like pulverized plant food. The pulverized material can also be made. Along the walks are control boards where red lights wink to show Superintendent Phil Turner and his assistant Dick Cocks just what's going on.

Raw materials are dumped from truck and freight car into a pit alongside the plant. An auger, a gigantic version of the one a farmer uses to elevate grain, carries the materials to an elevator. They are raised to a conveyor, carried along until over the correct bin and then dumped.

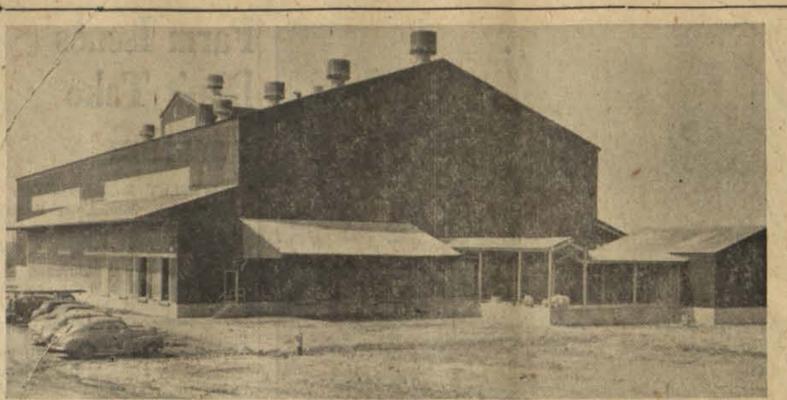
WHEN workers are ready to mix a batch, the raw materials are automatically weighed in hoppers that are so accurate they shut off the flow of the material within half a pound of the required weight.

The materials are transformed into a mud-like mass in the mixing machine, dried, and the completed product delivered to 550-ton storage bins or into bagging machines. A worker puts a bag under a chute, and 80 pounds of fertilizer tumble in. The bag is sealed on a stitching machine and is on its way to Michigan farm-land.

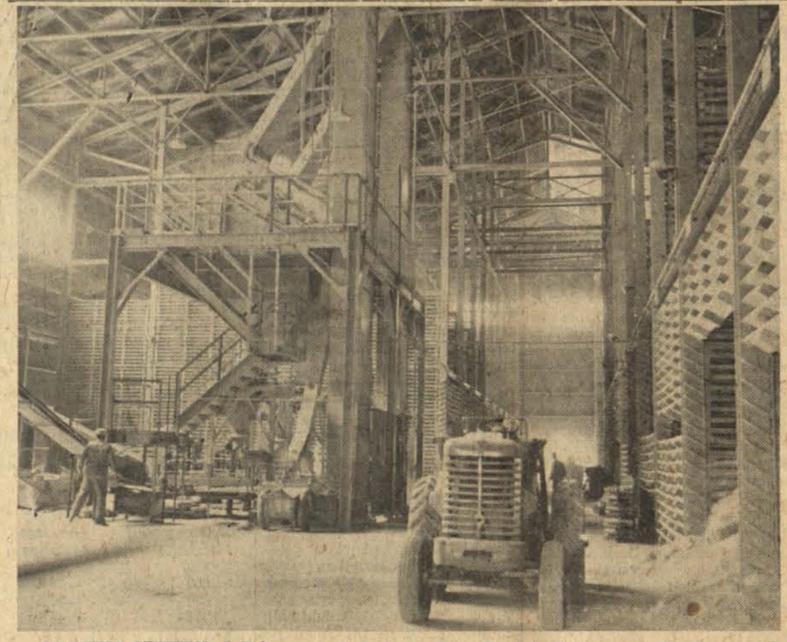
It takes from three to six minutes to whip up a batch, depending upon the analysis being made. Four are being manufactured at the present time, 5-20-20, 4-16-16, 3-18-9, and 12-12-12. A little pulverized 0-20-20 was also made.

The granulating process, employing sulphuric acid and anhydrous ammonia, is a closely guarded secret. Surplus anhydrous ammonia is recaptured and used again.

Forest Fires April starts the forest fire season. Michigan can't afford the luxury of forest fires.



PRODUCTION was under way at the Farm Bureau Services' new fertilizer plant at Kalamazoo when this photograph was taken early in April. Considerable work remained to be done outside. Not shown in this picture are the buildings housing the office, electrical control room, repair shop, cafeteria. They are on the other side of the main building.



BAGGING SECTION of Kalamazoo plant, at the left. Truck loader shown in the foreground brings two ton scoops of granulated fertilizer from the slatted storage bins. The load is dumped onto a grating at base of elevator legs in center of picture. Fertilizer is elevated and conveyed to screening equipment on second floor. Screened to size it descends to two bagging outlets shown near foot of stairs. The baggers when tripped will deliver 80 lbs. to a bag. A moving belt takes the bag to a stitching machine for closure, and on to the storage area.

Purpose of Farm Bureau

"The purpose of this Association shall be the advancement of our members' interests educationally, legislatively, and economically."

This sentence is taken from the statement of purpose when the Michigan Farm Bureau was organized at Michigan State College, February 4, 1919.

Buy Farm Bureau Seeds.



MANPOWER needed here. This is the end of the conveyor belt for sacked fertilizer. The man receives the sacks and stacks them on a wooden platform or pallet. The load is shifted to storage or to the shipping floor by fork lift trucks.

Egg Sales Up After Loss Of Supports

"The dairy industry must help itself increase sales and reduce surpluses," said President Charles B. Shuman of the Illinois Agricultural Association.

SPEAKING at a dairy promotional meeting in Chicago, Mr. Shuman compared marketing problems of butter and eggs. He pointed out that in December, 1950, government supports were removed from eggs which were then selling at 70% of parity. Per capita consumption was 386 per year in the United States.

After supports were removed, consumption and price both increased. Last year, the price averaged 99% of parity and egg use stood at 397 per person. "If it can happen with eggs, it can happen with dairy products," said Shuman.

AFBF PRESIDENT Allan Kline has written the National Association of Food Chains, National Association of Retail Grocers and the Independent Grocers Alliance to secure cooperation in promoting sales of dairy products.

Use Certified Seed to Avoid Off-Color Bean

It looks as though planting certified navy bean seed is going to be mighty important this year.

That's because of the off-color bean which was found in the 1953 Michigan crop. It has a slightly darker seed coat than the normal navy bean and turns a dark blue color when you cook it.

That's why canners won't buy beans which contain this off type in 1954. They buy two-thirds of the navy beans produced in Michigan, according to Milton Erdman of the Michigan State College farm crops department.

Dr. E. E. Down, Michigan State's bean breeder, has found that this off-color bean reproduces itself 100 percent. That's another good reason why it's important to plant certified seed which is free of the off-color bean.

The MSC farm crops department recommends certified Michillite seed—or seed one year from certification. The certified seed has other advantages, too—it has high germination, low disease infection and varietal purity.

Discussion Topic

(Continued from page 8)

If the citizen of the township wishes to preserve the strength of his local government, he must tackle the problems that face him. He cannot hope to turn his back upon them and still retain what he has of home rule. And he cannot expect that someone else will save it for him.

THIS MEANS that a real, vigorous community spirit must grow among the folks in the township. Town meetings will have to be well-attended. Actions of the township boards must be closely studied. Township elections should have "top billing" in every citizen's thinking. And every citizen should have the community welfare at heart rather than checking his interest at his own front gate.

Questions

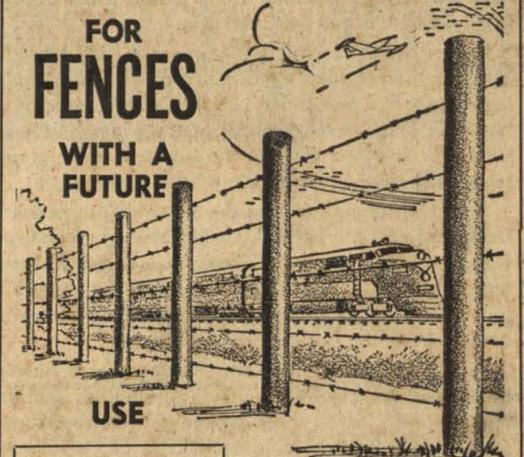
1. What can the citizens in your own township do to help strengthen the local government and preserve its future?
2. Are the local tax assess-

ments based upon true property values that are in line with present-day trends?

3. Are the citizens in your township taking a personal interest in the township government by attending town meetings, school meetings, and learning about the actions of their township board?

4. In line with the resolution, would your Community Group select a member to attend Township Board meetings and report the action back to the group?

Now's the time to
Make it Milk!
(Milk's better for you, too)
American Dairy Association of Michigan



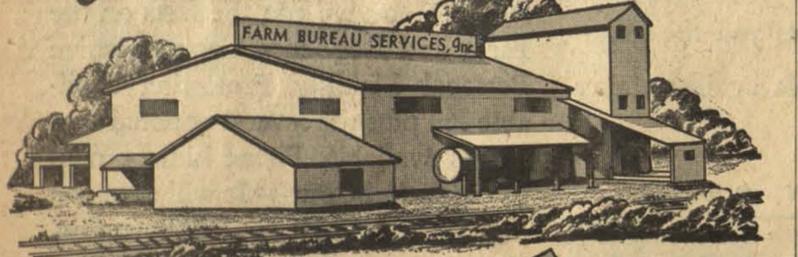
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can be spent to build factories for others, or you can spend it to build factories for yourself and your fellowman.

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221 N. Cedar Street Lansing 4, Michigan

Sportsmen Honor Farm Organizations

Rural-urban efforts to create harmony and better understanding have been recognized by the Merit Award Academy of the Detroit Sportsmen's Congress.

At a dinner meeting a month ago at Detroit, plaques were presented to Michigan Farm Bureau and Michigan State Grange "for constructive cooperation in building a better understanding of the American Way of Life through an Improved Farmer-Sportsman Relationships.

THESE AWARDS were the result of efforts initiated by the Farm Bureau and Grange in line with resolutions adopted at their 1952 annual meetings.

Meetings were held in Oakland, Ingham and Kent counties. Resulting programs saw 51,000 posters and 124,000 pamphlets distributed by sportsmen's groups furthering the "good manners" in the use of farmers' lands for hunting and fishing.

The plaques were accepted by Dan E. Reed, Assistant Legislative Counsel, Michigan Farm Bureau, and William J. Brake, Master of the State Grange. Also honored Dr. Paul Herbert, conservation leader, Representative Emil A.

1954 Good For Soybeans

1954 looks like a reasonably good year for the production of soy beans, says Herb Pettigrove of the Michigan State College farm crops department.

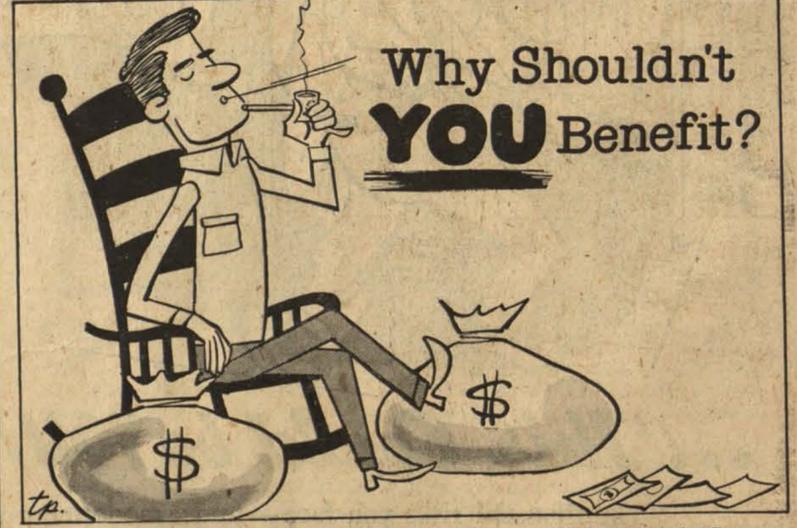
Soybeans usually are planted about the first of June in order to get the competing weeds under control, but Mr. Pettigrove says you can expect better returns if they're plowed about the middle of May. Plow as early as possible to save soil moisture for the soybeans.

As for variety, Mr. Pettigrove says Blackhawk is far outstanding in Michigan for yield, stand, and very desirable as a market type.

Farm Bureau Services seed department agrees on Blackhawk soybean seed, which is in strong demand. FBS says other good varieties are Hawkeye for Michigan south of Lansing, and Earlyanna for all areas where soybeans are grown.

Peltz of Rogers City and Michael "Dad" Butler of Detroit.

Governor G. Mennen Williams was present and congratulated the award recipients. The awards were presented by Frank E. Burch, Executive Secretary of the Detroit Sportsmen's Congress, which is the largest affiliate of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs.



Why Shouldn't YOU Benefit?

Your Farm Bureau auto insurance now is paying dividends to the Farm Bureau members who were its first policyholders.

The dividends are just one of the special advantages of this Farm Bureau service.

And why shouldn't you benefit from it? You organized it, and you support it through the Farm Bureau.

You designed it to bring you low rates, fast claims service, dividends, and other extra benefits.

Now it is living up to its promise—a true Farm Bureau program delivering a large measure of extra service, thanks to you and your neighbors.

Ask your Farm Bureau Insurance Agent to give you a full report on all Farm Bureau insurance services. The benefits are yours.

FARM LIABILITY INSURANCE AUTO and TRUCK INSURANCE FIRE INSURANCE
FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
507 South Grand Avenue - Lansing, Michigan

Benson's Letter to Michigan Dairy Farmers

Dust Bowl Threat Down Slightly

Recent rains have given slight relief in some of the western drought areas. However, governors of the affected states, meeting in Washington the week of April 26 said the situation still warrants extension of emergency aid.

USDA officials think that much blame for the recent dust storms must be placed on the continued grain cropping of acres of grassland plowed up to meet the World

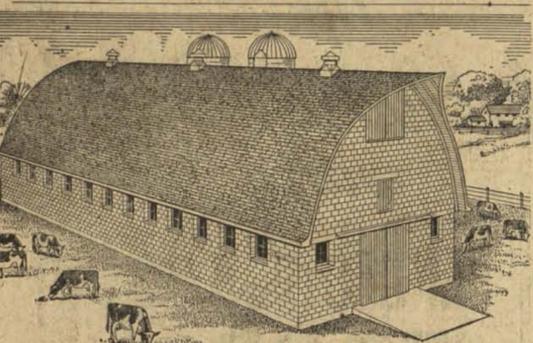
War II need. High support prices have kept this land in wheat production after the war emergency was past. These former range lands have been a principal contributor to the government-owned surplus commodity stocks.

Kansas Farm Bureau reports that livestock farmers are paying as much as \$10 per day for water shipped in for ranch use.

OVERLOAD SPRINGS
\$995 Per Pair Postpaid

For cars and trucks. Give 2,000 lbs. extra capacity for all 1/2, 3/4, and 1 ton trucks. 1,000 lbs. extra for cars except Buick, Olds, Nash. Easily installed in 5 minutes. Satisfaction guaranteed. State make and model.

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2315 Clay Topeka 42, Kan.



Protect your investment with a firesafe CONCRETE dairy barn

Don't risk losing your herd, barn or equipment in a fire. Insurance helps but can't pay for years of selective breeding or the disruption of your farm program.

Protect your investment with a firesafe concrete barn. Concrete can't burn. Concrete also resists rats, rot, storms and termites. If a

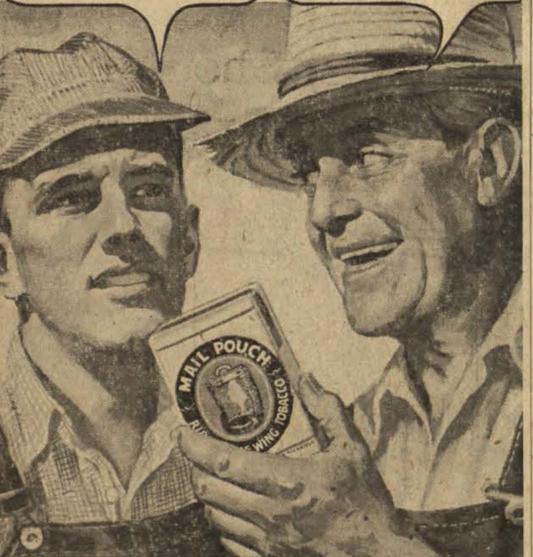
PASTE COUPON ON BACK OF POSTCARD AND MAIL TODAY

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
Michigan National Tower, Lansing 8, Mich.

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Street or R. No. _____
Post Office _____ State _____

This hot weather makes my mouth dry as a bone.

Son! There's an easy way to fix that—CHEW MAIL POUCH TOBACCO



Enjoy tobacco a man's way

Chewing is a man's way to enjoy tobacco. Baseball players chew tobacco because it helps keep their mouths moist and comfortable. So do thousands of other men who work where it's hot or dusty. Chewing eases the strain of your job—relaxes you—helps you enjoy living more.

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE BEST Ask for genuine MAIL POUCH

Their Help is An Expanded Market

To Michigan Farmers: One of agriculture's biggest problems is also one of the easiest to solve.

The solution lies not with government or its officials but with millions of Americans who can and should drink an extra glass or two of additional pieces of butter.

AT PRESENT the dairy industry is confronted with production and marketing problems that stem from increasing output, declining exports and a reduction in per capita consumption. It is important to see that these troubles are not perpetuated.

The government now has more than 1,320,000,000 pounds of dairy products in storage. These surpluses were acquired by supporting dairy prices at 90 percent of parity. They are products that should have gone to consumers but instead went into government warehouses.

To make dairying a strong and independent part of our agricultural economy these surpluses must be disposed of and a proper adjustment made between production and consumption. The easiest way to do this is to increase consumption.



EZRA T. BENSON

SINCE 1945 the annual per capita consumption of fluid milk and cream has declined 47 pounds. For the same period consumption of butter dropped the equivalent of an additional 45 pounds of milk.

Our people need to eat more dairy products. If the full dietary needs of the nation were being met, there would actually be a shortage of these products. Milk is good. It is the most nearly perfect of all foods for children, young people and adults. Milk is cheap. A recent study shows that the nutrients contained in a quart of milk would cost 42 cents if obtained from other sources.

IN AN effort to encourage the use of dairy products and its compliance with the law, I recently reduced the dairy price support level from 90 to 75 percent of parity. It is my belief that more realistic prices, coupled with a vigorous educa-

INSURE YOUR CROPS AGAINST HAIL

Last year hail took a tremendous toll in Michigan field crops. We paid for losses in 38 Michigan counties where hail damaged crops of our policy holders.

You can never avoid hail damage, but you can avoid financial loss. We have been providing Michigan farmers with sound, inexpensive hail insurance on farm and garden crops for the past 43 years.

Ours is a mutual company, owned and operated by farmers, for farmers. Our policy gives "blanket coverage"—you do not have to insure each crop separately. Protect your crops with Michigan Mutual Hail Insurance. Then whenever it comes, whenever it strikes, hail cannot cause you financial loss.

Ask your Local Agent or Write for Details. Agents Wanted in Certain Areas.

Michigan Mutual Hail Insurance Co.
208 North Capitol Ave.
414 Mutual Bldg., Lansing
Over \$18,000,000 Insurance in Force.
Surplus to Policyholders Over \$600,000.

Early Days in Farm Bureau



WILLIAM VAN HARTESVELDT, 77, (left) is shown April 28 as he recalls with Editor E. E. Ungren of the Michigan Farm News some of the early days they knew in Farm Bureau.

Mr. Van Hartesveldt was one of the original membership solicitors in 1919. He believes that he signed 10,000 to Farm Bureau membership in the years 1919 through 1923.

In the fall of 1919 there were two crews of solicitors—16 men per crew. Each group canvassed a county. The solicitors expected to enroll 15 to 20 members daily.

When they had canvassed 83 counties the membership totalled 96,000. Most of them gave post-dated checks for each of three

percent of parity to the farmer on butterfat and only 84 percent on manufactured milk.

As I understand the law, the full 75 percent of parity must now be passed on to the farmer. I will see that this is done.

EZRA TAFT BENSON, Sec'y U. S. Dep't of Agriculture

Rigid Supports Lose on Test Vote

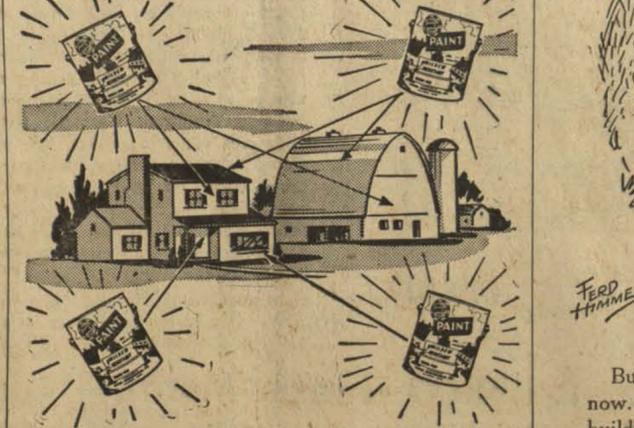
On a critical test of strength vote in the Senate April 27, a move to extend mandatory, rigid farm price supports for one year was defeated by a vote of 40-48.

The vote came on an amendment to the wool support bill offered by Senator Ellender of Louisiana. Originally designed as a two-year extension, the amendment was revised to cover one year as a compromise to gain support.

Other unrelated amendments to the same bill, S-2911, were offered by Senators Humphrey and Thye of Minnesota. These were defeated. After the "rider" amendments were defeated, the wool bill was passed 69-17.

Michigan's Senator Homer Ferguson and Senator Charles Potter both supported Farm Bureau's position on these important votes.

The Senate Agriculture Committee is now beginning executive sessions to draft a farm bill



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FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc. PAINT DEPARTMENT
221 N. Cedar Lansing, Michigan

MFB Directors Ask Congress To Back Ike

The Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors have commended President Eisenhower and Secretary Benson for lowering support prices on dairy products April 1.

They also asked Congress to support the Eisenhower-Benson program to increase federal appropriations to state agricultural colleges for agricultural research and the educational work of the agricultural extension services. The increases favored were \$5,732,000 for research and \$8,300,000 for education.

THE FARM Bureau told the President and Secretary Benson and Congress that it expects the lower price support to substantially increase the demand for dairy products. It urged that sale

of the several hundred-million pounds of dairy products now held by the government be at prices that will not make adjustments more difficult for the dairy industry. As much as possible should be sold in foreign markets.

The directors said their recommendations for more funds for agricultural research and education were based on the proposition that the basic long-range needs of American agriculture are to reduce costs, to improve quality, and to expand markets. They said the sound approach to every one of these needs is through research and education.

The Farm Bureau said that \$110,479 of the proposed increase to state agricultural experiment stations for research would come to Michigan. About \$207,800 of the proposed increase of \$3,300,000 for the state agricultural extension services would come to Michigan.

Seeing ourselves as others see us wouldn't be much good. We wouldn't believe it.—The Southern Planter.

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Meeting the Challenge of Township Gov't

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for May

DONALD D. KINSEY

Coordinator of Education and Research

Delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting Nov. 12-13, 1953 said this about township government:

"We view with alarm any attempt that would remove or deprive township supervisors of any of their present functions. . .

"We recommend that each Community Farm Bureau designate one of its members to attend each meeting of its local township board and then report the developments back to the Community Group at its next meeting.

"We believe in home rule, but we also realize that we must be willing to do our part to make good government a reality in our local understanding."

The challenge to township government was the top choice of the Community Groups on the recent ballot on topics for Farm Bureau discussion groups. And wisely so, for there has been no slacking of pace by opponents of local government systems.

Last year we saw the effort to remove the authority of the township supervisors as tax assessors and to create a county assessor. The legislative session of 1954 brought new and different efforts to weaken the powers of local government. General efforts for 1954 aimed to shift the powers of tax assessment toward the State Tax Commission and the State Board of Equalization.

House Bill 353 in its original form, would have given power to any board of education to appeal to the State Tax Commission against the valuations established by the supervisors. This would have forced the Board of Supervisors to bring the tax rolls before the State Tax Commission for review of their assessments.

The changes made in the assessments by the State Tax Commission would be binding upon the board of supervisors for two years. Only the State Tax Commission could change the valuations and assessments during that time.

Amendments to the bill were introduced by Representative Clements before it passed the House. These amendments put the control of such action back into the hands of the supervisors. It has passed the Senate and the House at present standing. Let us not forget the original intent and aim which would limit the authority of the supervisors considerably.

And let us take notice of such bills as Senate Bill 1265 and S-1266 which were designed to compel the use of the state equalization formula as a basis upon which local taxes are spread. These bills came within 11 and 12 votes of passing the House, and that is close! They passed the Senate! Under these bills the county board of supervisors would have been required to apply the state equalization formula to the tax rolls of the county and to attach the tax rolls to the state formula each year.

Under such an arrangement the function of the township supervisor would have changed to that of spreading the state-established quota upon the local taxpayers. He would have less authority to judge differences in local property values.

Such bills do not destroy local authority entirely. But they are steps in the direction of limiting and qualifying that authority. Continuing steps can complete the undermining of township systems of government.

EMOTIONAL Attacks. — Criticisms of the township system are frequently made on emotional rather than logical grounds. One might be led to think that people in the townships pay no share of the taxes. Let us consider. Monies collected at the local level and returned to the local government should not be labeled "State Aid" unless returned in excess of collections and on a "need" basis. Some writers seem to imply that all monies returned are "State Aid."

And the exposing of certain townships in the newspapers and magazines as "bad examples" is a sheer propaganda device. The

tyrannical, its very power and size spread the tyranny over more people, permit wholesale corruption, and make it a greater problem to remove the offending persons in power.

POSITIVE measures to meet the challenge. Alibis and arguments over the virtue or weakness of local governments can never serve to meet the challenges being leveled against them. The solution lies within

the hands of the people at the home level, and requires a sincere approach to it. Action, not debate, is the key to the matter. Lines of action to be examined include the following points:

The nature of the challenge is directed at the evidence that some townships are not paying a proper share for the support of their schools, for example, by way of the property tax. Some of these may point out that they are levying taxes up to the 15-

mill limit. But the millage is based upon a smaller valuation than is warranted under present conditions. They may have failed to reflect the increases in property values that have developed over the past twenty years. If and where this is true, wisdom would dictate a corrective program.

It should be pointed out that while some farm properties may be undervalued, there are townships where farm properties have excessively-high valuations im-

posed on them.

NEXT, let us examine our own public service operations at the township level. Let us be sure that needed services are being given, and that economy is being practiced in the use of public funds.

These funds should be used for programs that serve, protect and raise the living standard of the community as a whole.

Then let us be well-informed and deeply-interested in the op-

erations of our local governments. Let us sweep away indifference, complacency and excuses against our own responsibility. A democracy must have the personal attention of its citizens.

IF AND WHERE there are real abuses, negligence, graft or political favoritism let us "clean our own house." To fail in this is not only to warrant criticism. It is also dangerous to the future of

our own local governments. **PROPERTY** valuation and assessing are not easy tasks if they are to be done on a fair basis. The legislature in its 1954 session provided for the printing of a "Tax Assessment Manual." This manual should be useful to local supervisors in bringing about a more uniform and fair spread of taxes among the residents.

(Continued on page 6)

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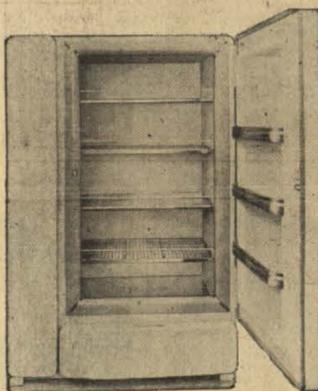
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UNICO CHESTS

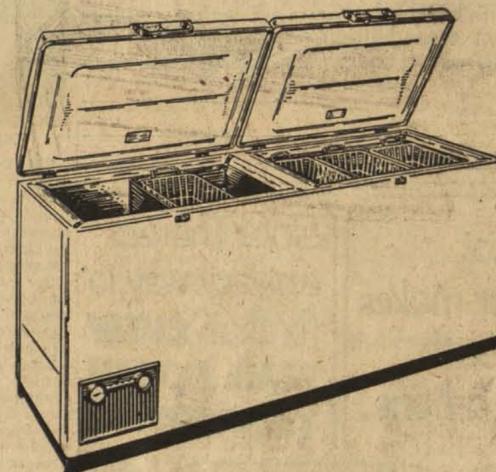
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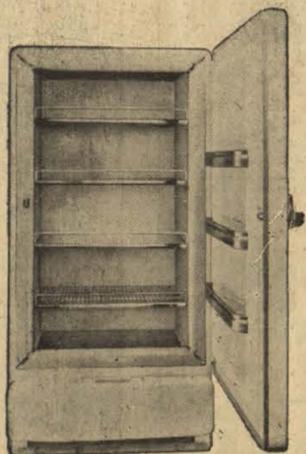
24 Cu. Ft.
FF - 704
840 lb. Capacity

\$531.60



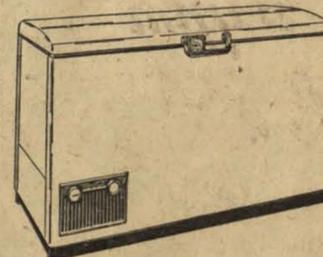
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FF - 712
840 lb. Capacity

\$513.90



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FF - 703
560 lb. Capacity

\$416.80



16 Cu. Ft.
FF - 711
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\$384.30

Discussion Topics

These were chosen by your State Discussion Topic Committee from the results of the questionnaire returned by the Community Farm Bureaus.

- May How Can We Meet the Challenge to Township Governments?
- Jun. Highway Accidents and Hazards on the Right of Way.
- Jul. Our Extension Program—Emphasis on Marketing Research and Salesmanship?
- Aug. Farm Inheritance—Should Farmers Make a Will?

Be sure to read your discussion topic articles in the Michigan Farm News. Attend your Community Farm Bureau meetings.

- ADRIAN...Beecher Road Farm Supply
- ALLEGAN...Allegan Farmers Co-op Assn.
- ANN ARBOR...Washtenaw F.B. Store
- ARMADA...Laursen Farm Supply
- AVOCA...Hill's Farm Equipment
- BAD AXE...Nugent Farm Service
- BATH...Cables Farm Shop
- BATTLE CREEK...Battle Creek Farm Bureau
- BELLEVEU...Love's Farm Service
- BRECKENRIDGE...Breckenridge Oil
- BRIDGEWATER...A. H. Braun Impl. & Hdwe.
- BROOKLYN...G. Raynor Boyce & Son
- BUCHANAN...Buchanan Co-ops, Inc.

- CADILLAC...Cadillac Co-operative
- CASSOPOLIS...Cass County Co-op
- CHEWANING...Chesaning Farmers Co-op, Inc.
- CLARE...Dull Farm Service Store
- CLIFFORD LAKE...Ken's Farm Equip.
- COOPERSVILLE...Coopersville Co-operative
- DEKERVILLE...Messman Machinery
- DORR...Salem Co-operative
- DUNDEE...Five Point Sales & Service
- ELKTON...Elkton Farm Equipment
- EVART...Ewart Co-operative
- GAINES...Marvin Tiedeman
- GILFORD...French's Farm Supply
- GLADWIN...Gladwin Farm Supply

- GRAND BLANC...Grand Blanc Elevator
- GREGORY...Plainfield FB Supply
- HAMILTON...Hamilton Farm Bureau
- HANOVER...Farmer Folk Supply Store
- HASTINGS...Preston Sales & Service
- HEMLOCK...Hemlock Farmers Co-operative
- HERRON...Wolf Creek Farm Bureau
- HILLSDALE...Hillsdale Co. Co-op
- HOLT...Kahres Dairy
- INLAY CITY...Lapeer Co. Co-operative
- KALAMAZOO...Lockwood Farm Equip Co.
- LAKE ODESSA...Lathrop Hatch. & Farm Sup.

- LAPEER...Lapeer County Co-operative
- MAPLE RAPIDS...Settingrington Motor Sales
- MARCELLUS...Marcellus Implement
- MARLETTE...Lamie's Refrigeration & Heating
- MARSHALL...Marengo F B Store
- MASON...Mason Home Appliance
- MCCORDS...Kleinheksel's Farm Serv.
- MOLINE...Moline Co-op Milling Co.
- ONEKAMA...Schimke's Farm Service
- OWENDALE...Roland Gettel
- PARMA...Jordan's Farm Store
- PITTSFORD...Ayres Implement Sales
- PORTLAND...Alfred Ferris
- PRESCOTT...Wilmer Bradley

- READING...Art Gieber Farm Supply
- REMUS...Gordon Schlegel Farm Equip.
- ROCKFORD...Long's Farm Equip. & Service
- RUTH...Ruth Farmers' Elevator
- SAGINAW...Heindl Farm Equipment
- ST. JOHNS...Ollie Stigel
- SCOTTS...Scotts Farm Supply
- STANWOOD...Stanwood Marketing
- SUNFIELD...Sunfield Farm Store
- THREE RIVERS...Three Rivers Co-op
- UTICA...Wolverine Co-op Co.
- VESTABURG...Doolittle Farm Supply
- WEST BRANCH...West Branch App.

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