

Michigan Farm News

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34th Year

School Aid Bill is Big Problem for Legislature

EDITORIAL

Senate Farm Bill Faces Veto

President Eisenhower is known to consider the Senate's farm bill adopted March 19 as unworkable and unsound. It is a practical return to 90% of parity rigid farm price supports.

In his Farm Message to Congress January 9, the President urged that "flexible price supports be continued as a sound program to keep commodity supplies in balance with market demand."

The Senate bill faces a probable veto unless it is made more acceptable by the Democrat controlled Senate and House conference group. This is unlikely since the House adopted a bill last year providing for a return to 90% of parity farm price supports. Reporters said no one in the Senate seemed fully happy with their bill.

Technically, the bill continues flexible price supports. But it is also a patchwork of amendments designed to fix price supports at or near the old 90% of parity level.

The Senate set the support level for cotton at 90% of parity, wheat at 86% of parity as against 76% now, corn at 87% of parity as against 81% now.

The bill would require the Secretary of Agriculture to put into the set-aside 7 1/2 to 8 million bales of cotton; 750 to 800 million bushels of wheat, and 250 million bushels of corn. These would not be considered in figuring support prices.

In a final show-down, supporters of flexible price supports in the House plan to ask that body to instruct its conferees to reject high supports when the conference committee meets.

This will be done when the chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture asks unanimous consent to send the Senate bill to a Senate-House conference committee.

President Charles B. Shuman of the American Farm Bureau called the Senate farm bill "a bad bill — the product of political log rolling at the expense of the American farmer and the general public."

"This bill abandons any semblance of sound economic principles for the illusion of political gain."

"It is unrealistic to pretend that billions of dollars worth of farm surpluses can be hidden by a stroke of a legislative pen."

"For all practical purposes the Senate bill marks a return to the government price fixing program which is largely responsible for the present unsatisfactory net income situation in agriculture."

"The set-aside provisions of the bill which have the effect of increasing price support levels for corn, wheat, and cotton, irrespective of the amount of the surplus, and the adoption of dual parity eliminate any semblance of flexibility in government pricing policies for these commodities."

"The situation is aggravated further by the provision for dumping wheat domestically. This will adversely affect the price of all feed grains, as well as cattle, hogs, sheep, dairy, and poultry products."

"I believe that this bundle of contradictions, if enacted into law, will do more harm than good to the welfare of agriculture because of the tremendous production incentive it contains. This will result in adding to the burdensome surpluses hanging over the market, and in further reducing farm prices."

"The farm problem can only be solved by a forthright effort to balance supply with demand by expanding markets and discontinuing governmental encouragement of the production of wasteful and price depressing surpluses."

Plenty Room to Expand

J. M. (Mac) Moore, extension poultryman at Michigan State University, tells us that Michigan's poultry industry has plenty of room to expand.

Of every ten chickens eaten in Michigan, four were grown here and the others were shipped in. Eggs? We produce 40 per cent of our consumption and import 60 per cent.

(Continued on Page 7)



AWARD WINNERS at Washington in March. Because Michigan Farm Bureau reached its 1955 share of the American Farm Bureau "Two Million Member Goal," eight leaders selected by lot from County Farm Bureaus that made goal were guests of the AFBF in Washington in March. Seated, left to right are: Clark L. Brody, executive vice president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Senator Potter, and Mrs. Logan Harris of Almont. Standing, left to right: Bill Eastman and Dan Reed of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Mrs. Edna Root of Barryton, Harry Taylor of Copemish, Max Hood of Paw Paw, Herman Wegmeyer of Lachine, Bernard Kuhns of Howell, Mrs. Glenn Hombaker of East LeRoy, J. Eugene Nettleton of Rhodes, and Reuben Wirgau of Rogers City.

Blue Cross Pays Three \$1,000 Hospital Bills for Us Weekly

AT KALAMAZOO FORUM Fleming Wars On Political Price Fixing

The "politics of equal shares" — a political division of the "right to produce" combined with high price supports — cannot possibly lead to high net farm income, according to Roger Fleming, secretary-treasurer of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Speaking to the Kalamazoo Farmers Forum in the County Center Building March 21, Fleming asserted "the history of experiments in political price fixing in other countries of the world, plus our own experience with Burley tobacco allotments, ought to be sufficient warning to U.S. farmers not to jump out of the frying pan into the fire."

"Political price fixing eventually leads to inefficient production, low net farm income and high priced food to consumers. Worse than that, it destroys individual freedom and opportunity."

Mr. Fleming made it clear that farm price support programs, as contrasted to price fixing, have a place in an overall agricultural program.

Explaining the Burley tobacco experience, Fleming said marketing quotas have been in effect on this crop since the late 1930's and by 1944, a minimum allotment of one acre was established.

By 1955, Burley acreage decreased 47.3 percent, the number of growers rose 26.1 percent, the average size of allotment fell 58.2 percent and the minimum allotment was lowered three times.

The minimum is now at .5 acres and the number of allotments of this amount or less has increased from 8,881 growers in this category to more than 115,000.

Applying the results actually experienced by Burley growers to dairy farmers and hog producers, the "politics of equal shares" would provide for a current minimum of two cows and seven hogs.

"Because a minimum allotment no smaller than 3 cows probably would have been established," Fleming declared, "it means that every dairyman milking more than 3 cows would have had to cut his herd down to 3 cows all in a 12 year period — and probably we'd have had an even worse surplus situation in addition."

Applying the same program of production controls to hogs — but

Every week Michigan Blue Cross pays at least three hospital bills over \$1,000 for Farm Bureau members!

It is these high cost hospital bills, involving many days of much expensive care that prove disastrous to family finances.

It is the protection against such hospital bills that makes more important than ever before the Blue Cross principle of providing needed hospital services without a dollar limit.

One Farm Bureau member from the Thumb area was provided \$6,112.78 worth of hospital care by Blue Cross during 1 1/2 year period. This care was for several hospital stays, including one of 72 days and another of 108 days, with vital and costly drugs and dressings accounting for \$2,656.73 of the total bill.

Oxygen treatment alone amounted to \$1,118 of the \$2,407.40 hospital bill for a Kent County Farm Bureau member, with all but \$12.50 of his care provided by Blue Cross.

A polio patient, who is the son of a Farm Bureau member, received \$2,737.35 worth of hospital care through Blue Cross. This included \$984 for physical therapy.

Blue Cross also provided \$2,604.95 worth of hospital care during the 119-day stay of a woman member of the Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau recently. It paid a hospital bill of \$2,317 for a Van Buren County Farm Bureau member hospitalized after an automobile accident.

One hospital bill for \$1,121.61 for a Farm Bureau woman member hospitalized for 46 days following a heart attack was completely covered by Blue Cross, as was the bill of \$1,040 for the 45-day stay of another Farm Bureau woman member.

A fractured hip kept one member in the hospital for 94 days, and all but \$35 of the \$1,323.73 hospital bill was covered by Blue Cross.

None of us can know in advance how much hospital care we may need. As Blue Cross-Blue Shield members we know that if the costly-care-case hits us, we will get the care we need, just as these members did, without a dollar limit.

Address MFB Mail PO Box 960 Lansing

P.O. Box 960 should be included in the address of all mail directed to Michigan Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, and Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Cooperatives at 4000 North Grand River Ave., Lansing.

The post office distributes all mail for these companies to P. O. Box 960. The box number assures instant dispatch to that box. All mail is delivered to the Farm Bu-

reau by our own truck. Mail addressed to the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company and Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company at Lansing should include in the address P. O. Box 1357.

Seed Prices Down

The supply of forage seed, with the possible exception of brome-grass, seems to be ample this year. Prices will be considerably lower than last year, say MSU farm crops specialists.

Co-ops to Sponsor Marshall Wells



MARSHALL WELLS, morning farm program over WJR, 6:30 to 7:00 a. m. week days, will have farmers' cooperative marketing and purchasing organization sponsorship for a portion of the program beginning April 2.

The farm groups will sponsor 15 minutes of the Marshall Wells-WJR morning program three days of each week.

Participating in the series and sharing its cost will be most of the local cooperative elevators of the state, the Michigan Elevator Exchange, Farm Bureau Services and its branches and management contract elevators, Michigan Cooperative Bean Marketing Association, and a group of independent elevators which have signed cooperative marketing agreements with Michigan Elevator Exchange.

James R. Bliss, general manager of Michigan Elevator Exchange, said that the commercial time available on the programs will be used to encourage farmers to make use of their own marketing and purchasing cooperatives as a self-help means of beating the cost-price squeeze. The theme to be featured on the program and by special posters and newspaper advertising will be: "It Pays to do Business the Co-op Way."

The Marshall Wells morning program is on each week day and is divided into two 15-minute segments. The 15-minute portion sponsored by Michigan cooperatives will change from week to week as to the day of the week and the portion of the 30-minute program.

Poultry

More consumers are buying poultry meat all through the week rather than just on weekends and holidays according to a Maine survey, reports J. M. (Mac) Moore, MSU extension poultryman.

Plan for Dividing \$256,000,000

Between 3,695 School Districts in State Contains Many Points for Argument; Farm Bureau Program Doing Well

STANLEY M. POWELL
Legislative Counsel for Michigan Farm Bureau

Michigan's state legislators are in a flurry of excitement as they bring their 1956 session to a close. They have set April 6 as the date for final adjournment.

The legislative sessions held during even numbered years are usually short in duration. Progress is speeded up by legislative rules which provide a series of deadlines. Measures which don't make specified progress by each of these deadlines are automatically dead.

March 21, all bills had to be reported favorably from committee in the second chamber or they expired. The only exceptions were the tax and budget bills.

March 22 to April 4 was set aside for clearing the House and Senate calendars of the accumulated measures. The final two days were scheduled for conferences and action on conference committee reports.

As usual, the major budget bills for financing state departments, institutions, and aid programs were left for final action until the closing days of the session.

The School Aid Formula is the bill of greatest interest and the one carrying the biggest grant of public funds. The bill contains many controversial provisions. Whatever is finally decided will certainly be a compromise and will of course not be entirely satisfactory to anyone. It will govern the way in which about \$256,000,000 will be divided up among the approximately 3,695 school districts in Michigan.

By next month, we will probably be able to give a fairly complete summary of what was and wasn't done from the Farm Bureau point of view.

Farm Bureau supported these bills passed by both branches of the legislature:

- H. 1, the new insurance code.
- H. 3, the new drainage code.
- H. 33, allowing paid and volunteer firemen to use flashers and sirens on their privately owned cars in going to fires.
- H. 34, increasing penalties for printing or selling obscene literature.
- H. 63, authorizing supervisors to employ independent appraisers.
- H. 77, authorizing supervisors to establish a department to survey assessments and assist in matters of equalization.
- H. 103, requiring coloring of seed grain treated with toxic material.
- H. 134, repealing the requirement of licenses for potato graders.
- S. 1070, providing for unified control of the Michigan State Fair and its property.
- S. 1111, removing some impractical provisions from the Michigan law legalizing and regulating bulk milk dispensers.

Farm Bureau Opposed. In the long run, the defeat of bills whose passage would prove detrimental to farmers or the general public is probably of more importance than the enactment of the bills which we favor. To mention a few of those which we opposed and which were defeated during the current session, there were:

- H. 73 and H. 142, which would have liberalized rather drastically, Michigan's laws relative to packaging, merchandising, and serving oleo in public eating places.
- S. 1036, which would have established a minimum salary for teachers.
- S. 1062 and H. 44, which proposed a \$1.25 an hour minimum wage.
- S. 1041, which provided for a 7 hour legal work day, with time and a half rate for all over-time.
- H. 39, which proposed a 3rd structure, or so-called "ton-mile" truck tax.
- S. 1230 and H. 71, which would have repealed the law permitting the state to make recovery from the estate of an old age pension recipient.
- S. 1116, which would have permitted the Turnpike Authority to finance and construct projects without legislative sanction.
- S. 1265, which would have allowed the state to bond to the full extent of revenue in the Highway Construction Fund.
- H. 184, H. 185, H. 421, and S. 1323, which would have established various types of state controls over migratory agricultural labor, their housing, etc.
- H. 276, which would have required inspection and approval of all school classrooms by the State Fire Marshal and State Health Department.
- H. 361, which would have restricted the use of trucks on weekends and holidays.
- Important Bills Pending.** As this report is prepared, there are several important bills of special interest to farm folks which have been approved in the house of origin and which are now on the calendar for final decision in the other chamber. In the House, farm interest centers on such measures as:
 - S. 1015, to establish a board to control the practice of veterinary medicine.
 - S. 1119, the new State Aid for Schools Formula.
 - S. 1175, to allow the use of the term "Grade A" with reference to milk produced and handled under certain conditions.Over in the Senate, we are concerned about the fate of such measures as:
 - H. 238, which would establish state standards for the installation and operation of bulk milk tanks and control bulk milk tank trucks.
 - H. 255, which would allow farm trucks having farm commercial license plates to be used for passenger car purposes.**Bills in Conference.** Some important legislation is now in conference — that is, it has been referred to a conference committee composed of three Senators and three Representatives who are attempting to reach a compromise between the Senate and House versions of controversial measures.
 - Deer Control.** Among the bills now in conference is H. 53. This was originally a bill to permit hunting black squirrels, but the Senate amended it to give the State Conservation Department discretionary control of the state's deer herd. The House added further amendments. They proposed that all regulations of the Conservation Commission, regarding deer herd management, be subject to a veto by a legislative committee, and further stipulated that the deer hunting season should open on the Saturday nearest to November 15.
 - Roadside Hunting.** Another conservation bill in conference is H. 89, having to do with the control of roadside hunting.
 - San Juan Rabbis.** As this is written, the Senate and House have failed to reach complete agreement as to the exact language of H. 97, which would pre-

(Continued on page 2)

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Einar E. Ungren, Editor
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Michigan Farm Bureau

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



Hiram on Cookery

Into the life of every man comes now and then a day That seems to tire his very soul and sap his strength away. When nothing goes entirely right, when troubles loom galore, So that he staggers in at night just weary to the core. Even my Marthy, bless her heart, whom I would gladly spare The daily burdens of the world to which our flesh is heir, Marthy, I say, is not immune to intervals like that And I can sense how tired she is almost as quick as scot. For often when the day was hard and she is feeling low She asks, at suppers approach, "How would some pancakes go?"

By that I know that my good spouse is nominating me As pancake maker of the hour, with full authority. I take it as a compliment, the office thus conferred, And grab the apron off the hook without a questioning word. I slip the griddle on to heat. I take one cup of flour And stir it up with lobbared milk that's just correctly sour. Then when it goes ker-flop, ker-flop, I add an egg or two (One is enough, and two makes good, but half an egg would do) And next I take an old cracked mug, the crack was my own fault: With half a tsp. of soda in, and half a tsp. of salt. I add two tsp. of water too, and stir that up a little And mix it with the other stuff; and then I grease the griddle.

Now comes the really easy part, as least it is for me: Two stirring-spoonfuls make a cake; our griddle holds just three. I stir the batter, floppy flop, but ladle out with care. I find the grease will spatter less than if I splash and tear. By now the coffee should be perked, and three brown cakes are done. We eat and bake and bake and eat. We finish every one. It's rather difficult, I find, to recipe in rhyme But pancake making is a cinch. Try it yourself, sometime. I blush no blush and take no shame at culinary art. That, man, I claim, who scorns to cook, is something less than smart.

My friend and neighbor Old Clem Hicks, who joins me on the west, Takes second place for no man yet; I rate him as the best. A kindly custom he observes; most wonderful, I think. He daily brings to Cynthia's bed a hot brown cup to drink. Not maybe when the rush is on, but when the work is slack He takes her cup of coffee in and wakes her with a smack. "These wives of ours are precious things," my neighbor Clem asserts "A little service warms their hearts—at least it never hurts."

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

Who's Eligible For the Farm Bureau?

Farmers, and this is the way they are described in the by-laws of the Michigan Farm Bureau:

Section 1. Membership Qualifications. (1) Only persons engaged in the production of agricultural or horticultural products, including lessees and tenants of land used for the production of such products.

(2) Or lessors and landlords who receive as rent all or any part of the crop raised on the rented or leased premises, or the proceeds thereof. These people shall be eligible for membership in this association, upon approval of their membership application at the direction of the board of directors.

Section 2 Family Membership. Membership in this association shall be a family membership which includes the husband and wife and minor children;

Provided that, an unmarried minor reaching the age of 21 shall be included in his or her family for the balance of the calendar year, and provided, further that married minors must qualify as a family membership.



"Competition gives me more for my money"

—my refrigerator is a good example!

Inquiring Reporter: There are bills in Congress that would give regulated forms of transportation, such as railroads and some trucks and barges, more freedom to price their services in competition with each other — and with unregulated trucks and barges, too. What's your opinion of that?

Housewife: Well, what I want to know is — will competition in transportation benefit me? Now when I bought my refrigerator, three different stores competed for my business — and I got a mighty good buy!

Inquiring Reporter: According to a Cabinet Committee appointed by the President, if the various kinds of transportation were allowed greater freedom to compete with one another in rates, it would mean savings for everyone.

Housewife: I thought so. I remember reading that railroads are often required to set their rates higher than would otherwise be necessary — just to protect their competitors.

Inquiring Reporter: Right — and the Committee recommended that each form of transportation should be allowed to make rates related to its own costs and needs, so long as the rates are not below cost and are not discriminatory.

Housewife: Well, in that case I'm all for competitive freight rates. After all, I pay the freight on everything I buy!

For full information on this important subject, write for the booklet, "Why Not Let Competition Work?"

Association of American Railroads

Transportation Building, Washington 6, D. C.



Community Farm Bureaus

CLARE L. MCGHAN
Coordinator of Community Farm Bureau for MFB

Dear Community Farm Bureau Leaders:
Kettering, the inventor and philosopher, once said, "We should all be concerned about the future because that is where we will spend the rest of our lives." The way we see some people you would think they were only going to live today. "Get all we can today and let our children worry about tomorrow" seems to be the thinking of too many.

In this quotation from Kettering we might put in the word Community for future. This perhaps would not be entirely true, but if the Community provides us with our needs and wants, we are quite apt to stay there. A Community Farm Bureau group should be helping to

any active 4-H members get into trouble. (The same can be said about Junior Farm Bureau.)

Labor and industry also gave some interesting facts about productivity in their organizations. After hearing all of these things, the only conclusion that we could draw is that the farmer himself is going to have to solve his own future. Other segments of society are interested in the farmer, to be sure, but we're not so sure it is for the best interest of the farmer.

If we as farmers are not satisfied with our present lot, we'd better get to doing something about it. The best way I know of to do this is to get together with our neighbors and decide what is the best course to take.

A Community Farm Bureau affords you this opportunity. Even more important is that the Community Farm Bureau is the first link in a chain that can and does reach clear to Washington, D. C.

Too often though people look to Lansing or Washington to solve their problems. Many of these problems can or could be solved more satisfactorily to everyone involved right on the local or county level. I am sure it would be much cheaper also. Washing-

ton doesn't have any money except what they take from us, and the traveling expenses for our money to go to Washington and back is high.

Let us dedicate ourselves to being better community citizens. Join hands with your neighbor to form a Community Farm Bureau group.

Many new Community groups are being organized at the present time. Huron county is still leading all counties with 67 groups. They have started three new groups this year. We think that this is an outstanding record.

So far this year 84 new groups have been organized. At present in Michigan there are 1543 Community groups. We expect that this number will be much higher next month as we hear by the "grapevine" that many groups are being organized around the state.

GOLD STAR AWARD

Northwest Michigan—Elmwood Community group—Mrs. William Lautner, secretary.
Mecosta County—Pleasant View Community Group—Dorothy Emmons, secretary.

SILVER STAR AWARD

Oakland County—East Orion Community Farm Bureau, Mary Naverman, secretary.
Mason—Elmer L. Fredericks, Scottville.
Menominee—Mrs. Bertil Gidlof, Stephenson.

Mecosta—Mrs. Margaret Fitzgerald, Big Rapids, R-1.
Midland — Mrs. Roy Varner, Midland, R-3.
Missaukee — Mrs. Bonnie Burkett, McBain, R-1.

Monroe — Mrs. Viola Eipperle, 7690 Ida East Road, Ida.
Montcalm—Mrs. Carl Johnson, Pierson, R-1.
Muskegon — Mrs. Alice Allen, Bailey, R-1.

Newagaw — Mrs. Carroll Robinson, Grant, R-1.
N. W. Michigan — Mrs. Rosemary King, 336 W. Front St., Traverse City.
Oakland—James L. Reid, Milford, R-2.

Oceana — Mrs. Hull Yeager, Hart, R-3.
Ogemaw — Mrs. Arnold Matthews, West Branch.
Osceola—Mrs. Fred A. Johnson, Hersey, R-1.
Otsego — Mrs. Walter Miller, Gaylord, R-2.

Ottawa—Mrs. Merle Herrinton, Allendale.
Presque Isle — Mrs. Herbert Paul, Hawks.
Saginaw—Mrs. Ethel N. Fuller, Box 1169, Saginaw.
Sanilac—Mr. Mary Ellen Klaty, Sandusky.

Shiawassee — Mrs. Ruth Alexander, Corunna, R-2.
St. Clair—Mrs. Beulah Burrows, 81047 N. Main, Memphis.
St. Joseph—Mrs. Beulah Timm, Centerville.
Tuscola — Mrs. Jane Stiner, Box 71, Caro.
Van Buren — Mrs. Katherine Johanson, 123 Paw Paw St., Lawrence.

Washtenaw — Mrs. Emma B. Howison, 109 1/2 E. Washington, Office 4, Ann Arbor.
Wayne—Mrs. Robert Simmons, 51140 Geddes Road, Belleville.
Wexford—Mrs. Harold Finstrom, Cadillac, R-2.

School Aid Bill Big Problem

(Continued from page 1)
vent bringing any more San Juan Rabbits into Michigan.

Remember, the lawmakers plan to wind up their session on April 6. Any advice you have to give them must be delivered right away in order to be of any help.

HAIL INSURANCE ON FARM AND GARDEN CROPS

ESTABLISHED IN 1911
OVER \$19,250,000.00 INSURANCE IN FORCE
WRITE OR SEE YOUR NEAREST AGENT—TODAY!

MICHIGAN MUTUAL HAIL INSURANCE COMPANY
OPENINGS IN SOME COMMUNITIES FOR AGENTS
208 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, Michigan

Price Makes It Good Year For Seedings

Soils in Michigan have lost much of their original organic matter, according to soil conservation people.

One of the best ways to restore the loss is by increasing the acreage of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, says Dick Schantz of the Farm Bureau Services Seed Dept. A single row crop can remove as much as two thousand or more pounds of organic matter per acre from the soil. A good alfalfa crop may provide the land with as much as five thousand pounds of organic matter per acre.

Welcome news in this period

of high production costs is the fact that forage crop seed prices are the lowest in many years according to Mr. Schantz. This spring is a good time to re-see pastures that never recovered from last year's dry spell or that have been worn out. It will also be a good time to increase permanent pastures or hay acreage at a much lower cost than you may have thought possible.

Alfalfa and other legume seed should be treated before planting with Unico Inoculant to provide nitrogen fixing bacteria for best results.

The Farm Bureau Seed Service says that lower prices on seed corn, soybeans and other seeds will lower farm production costs this spring. The best of seed is still the smallest but most important investment in the crop.

Don't live in the past—no one ever backed into prosperity.

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.

AGENTS WANTED

NEED EXTRA MONEY? Take orders from farmers for the most widely used liquid fertilizer—"Nut-Churns". Proven since 1946. Big demand already created. Liberal profits. No investment. Full or part time. Free details—write "Nut-Churns", Plant Food Co., 718 Monroe St., Marion, Ohio. (10-71-42b)

POULTRYMEN

DID YOU KNOW that you can double the capacity of your laying house with the Hawkins floor? No litter and less disease problems. Absolutely a dry house with Northco ventilation. The latest advance in poultry today—available at Dirks. See us at the new Dirks laying house on the new highway between Zeeland and Holland, or at office on Lincoln street in Zeeland. You can use either one in your present laying house. You've never seen anything like it. Stop in today. Dirks Lehigh Farm, Zeeland, Michigan. (2-31-88b)

FLORIDA FARM INCOME

FLORIDA Farm Income Up 27% since 1940. Get the facts on farming in fast-growing Florida. Long growing seasons, multiple crop production, diversified, expanding markets and year round mild climate provide extra advantages for experienced farmers with adequate capital. Take your first step toward happier living today. Send for new 40-page color booklet "Florida Farming". It's free! Contains information on all types of farm opportunities — truck farming, citrus, dairying, beef cattle, poultry, swine, tractors, fruits, ornamentals, and other helpful data. 50 Illustrations of Florida farm scenes—14 in color. Write State of Florida, 6526 B. Commission Building, Tallahassee, Florida. (3-41-100b)

CEDAR POSTS

FOR SALE—No. 1 Red Cedar Posts, 15 cent and up. Pete Bergman, Coleman, Michigan. Phone HG 5-2985. Member of Michigan Farm Bureau. (4-21-16p)

TRACTOR PARTS

FREE 1956 catalog. New and guaranteed used tractor parts, tractor tires, irrigation equipment and supplies. Low prices. Write today. Acme Tractor Supply Co., 1041 North 14th St., Lincoln 1, Nebraska. (1-41-25b)

PERENNIALS

GROW FLOWERS for Hobby, Beautification, or Profit. Let us help you. FREE LIST. Hardy plants: Hybrid Iris, Oriental Poppies, Peonies, Daylilies, etc. Wells Gardens, Washington, Michigan. (4-31-26p)

PLANTS

REGISTERED, virus-free strawberry plants: Blakemoor, Dunlop, Tennessee, \$6.00 per thousand; Aroma, Belmar, Premier, Robinson, Tennessee Beauty, \$7.00 per thousand. Certified everbearing Superfection Streamliner, \$14.00. Each variety \$2.00 per hundred. Eugene Smith, Goltswah R-1, Tennessee. (3-21-16p)

SEEDS

CERTIFIED CELESTON 50 Seed Oats. Germination test 98. Average yield 100 bushels when cleaned, bagged, and treated. Low price. Write Otto Meitz, Mt. Clemens, R-1, Michigan. (4-11-23p)

MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCERS

A NEW CLEANER: Maple Syrup Producers, this new, liquid, sugar-sand solvent will clean your sap boiling pans. One gallon makes forty gallons of cleaning mixture. Safe to use. Immediate delivery at our warehouse, or can ship parcel post to your farm address. One gallon enough for average pans per year. Price in our warehouse \$3.15 per gallon. Parcel post, prepaid to your address, \$4.40 per gallon. Order now. Sugar Bush Supplies Company, P.O. Box 1267, warehouse at 4109 West Saginaw street, (M-45), Lansing, Mich. (3-21-60b)

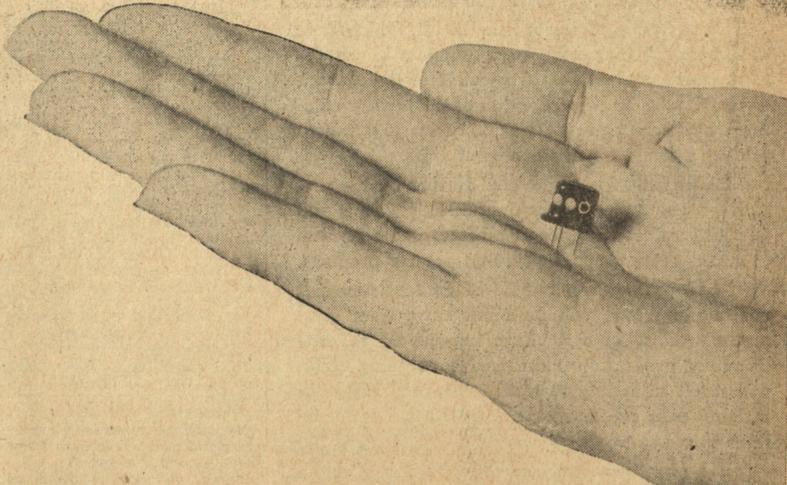
FARM FOR SALE

GOOD STOCK AND GRAIN farm. 240 acres. Level, heavy loam soil. Six room modern home, large barn, silo, corn crib, hog house, 70 acres wheat, 50 acres clover, 30 acres open land. Balance in second growth timber and pine settings and pasture. This could be what you have been looking for. Priced reasonable at \$49,000. Glen Rector, Realtor, Hartford, Michigan. Member of Michigan Farm Bureau. (3-11-60b)

SWEET POTATO PLANTS

IMPROVED PORTORICOS and Nancy Hall. 500-\$1.00; 500-\$1.50; 1,000-\$2.50. Bunch Yam: 200-\$1.50; 500-\$2.50; 1,000-\$4.00. Grower's Guide Free. Thrift Plant Farm, J. D. Dellinger, Gleason, Tennessee. (4-21-27b)

The surest way to stay poor is to try to get rich fast.



The Mighty Mite

Scientific history was made several years ago when Bell Telephone Laboratories invented the TRANSISTOR. The transistor is a tiny, solid device that will amplify electrical signals a thousandfold and do many things a vacuum tube can do. And more besides!

Just this year, the Laboratories announced a new transistor, with even wider uses than previous types. It can amplify 2,500 telephone con-

versations, simultaneously, on a telephone line. It is expected to be extremely useful in the transmission of television programs and in equipment for National Defense.

There's always something new coming along in the telephone business. The Mighty Mite is another example of how telephone people constantly find ways to do things better so that the service gets better for more and more people.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

This is the House that Farm Bureau Built

Developing Branch Store System

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research, MFB

The term "House" does not always refer to a building. Business organizations at times refer to their total operation with this term. For example, "The House of Yardley" in London. The Farm Bureau has become a business house in that sense.

Beginning in 1920 with the establishment of the Farm Bureau Seed Dept and the Purchasing Dept (farm supplies), Farm Bureau began to have an influence on quality and price of farm supplies for its members.

A variety of methods have been used to bring Farm Bureau supplies to the membership and other farmers.

Farmers cooperatives were the first choice as distributors. They have been the backbone of the Farm Bureau's distribution system for 35 years.

In communities where there was no farmers' cooperative within reasonable distance, individual farmers or established dealers took on the distribution of Farm Bureau supplies.

In 1925 Farm Bureau Services established its first retail store at Lansing, and another in 1926 at Saginaw. Last year 15 FBS branch elevators and supply stores marketed \$1,500,000 in grain and did \$6,500,000 business in farm supplies.

The first contract to manage a farmers' cooperative was written by Farm Bureau Services and the board of directors of the Hartford Cooperative Elevator Company in 1935. Last year FBS had management contracts with 17 farmers cooperatives. Together they marketed \$2,700,000 of grain and handled \$4,200,000 of farm supplies.

As the membership of Farm Bureau has grown, Farm Bureau Services has improved its farm supplies service by establishing wholesale warehouses for faster and more complete service to its distributors.

The first warehouse was opened at Lansing in 1925. A second was opened at Saginaw a few years later. Today FBS has warehouses at Lansing, Emmett, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Saginaw, and Traverse City.

FBS branch stores and elevators operate at Bay City, Emmett, Grand Rapids, Hart, Hastings, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Marcellus, Mt. Pleasant, Pinconning, Saginaw, Sandusky, Sterling, Traverse City, and Yale. Seven others have been sold to local cooperatives, merged, or discontinued.

The branches are owned entirely by Farm Bureau Services. The Michigan Farm Bureau owns a controlling interest in Farm Bureau Services. The balance is owned by farmers cooperatives and by individual Farm Bureau members who have subscribed \$50 or more for FBS capital stock and are thus qualified for one \$1 share of the common stock. It is the voting stock.

At the branch stores, a local advisory committee is chosen from the voting stockholders. They advise with the FBS and local manager to help the business serve local needs adequately.

The advisory committee helps promote local interest in business operations. It helps plan meetings for patrons and prospective patrons. It obtains views and attitudes of farmers in the area. The committee helps in financing campaigns. Services performed by any branch store are determined by mutual agreement between the advisory committee and Farm Bureau Services.

The Farm Bureau Services management contracts have come into being by invitation of the board of directors of a farmers cooperative. Under the contract, the management of the business operation is done by Farm Bureau Services, with its local manager in charge. The board of directors of the cooperative continues to control the policies.

Farm Bureau Services has management contracts today with cooperatives at Caro, Charlotte, Charlevoix, Chesaning, Fowler, Fremont, Grand Blanc,



YOUNG FARMER TRAINEES from nine nations are shown before the statue of Civil War Governor Austin Blair in front of the capitol at Lansing. They were on their way to see the state legislature in action.

The 27 young farmers attended a legislative seminar conducted by the Michigan Farm Bureau

Greenville, Hartford, Hillsdale, Howell, Leslie, Marshall (petroleum), Montgomery, Saginaw (petroleum), Scottville, and West Branch.

The business of the management contract stores has always been operated on the basis of locally developed farmer capital developed through the sale of stock and debentures.

It is very important to understand the importance of local financing of a business operation on an adequate basis. The people who are to benefit by such operations must furnish the money. Without such financing, no other source of funds is available, and local interest cannot be maintained permanently. The old rule works—"Those who share, care."

There have been casualties to local management contracts and to branch stores for a number of reasons. The lack of adequate financing stands high among these reasons.

The spark plug for the early years of Farm Bureau Services branch store and management contract operations was Fred Harger, now living in retirement at Big Rapids. He supervised the branch store program for a number of years.

Mr. Harger was the first manager at Saginaw. In a few years the Saginaw operation developed into a thriving farm supplies business, a large business in marketing grain and beans, a farm supplies warehouse for the Thumb area, and a farmers cooperative oil company.

In 1945, Mr. Harger represented Farm Bureau Services in the construction of its fertilizer manufacturing plant at Saginaw. He became the first manager of the Fertilizer Manufacturing Division and continued in that capacity until his retirement in 1952.

Fleming Wars on Price Fixing

(Continued from Page 1)
without assuming any increased production per animal—Fleming said "instead of the number of hog producers going down from 2,104,170 to 1,423,924 and the average number of hogs sold per farm going up from 32 head to about 44 head as actually took place between 1944 and 1955, the number of hog producers would have gone up to 2,653,358 in 1955 and the average number of hogs sold per farm would have been about 24 head per farm.

"From this calculation it is clear that at the end of 12 years there still might have been a few so-called 'big' hog growers left—farmers who sold a combined spring and fall pig crop of 100 head or so.

The Burley grower who still has a five acre allotment knows he is likely to have it reduced any time to an acre or less, so each of the relatively few producers of 100 or more head of hogs would know his allotment was in danger of being cut on short notice to 14 head—about two litters of spring pigs, or two litters of fall pigs, or one litter of each.

"What price for butterfat or milk would a farmer have to receive to make a profit if three cows was his maximum size herd? What price per hundred-weight for hogs would it take to provide a good income to a hog producer if the maximum number

and heard Dan Reed of the MFB staff describe the Michigan Farm Bureau's work in state and national legislation.

Members of the trainees' sponsor families also attended the legislative seminar which was similar to those held for community and County Farm Bureau groups.

The Michigan young farmer trainee group is the largest in

he could sell in a year was 14 head?

"Thinking farmers know that net income is obtained by multiplying production times price per unit minus expenses.

"The 'politics of equal shares' constitutes an ominous threat to the future of commercial family farming here in the United States."

Fleming said it was Farm Bureau's determination to protect the opportunity for those who farm to earn a high income" and this is reflected "in the vigor with which the Farm Bureau opposes government policies that would mean lower incomes to farmers.

"I refer to policies such as high price supports that create income depressing surpluses," he said. "Congress cannot solve the farm problem because it will not be solved by legislation. But wrong action by Congress can make the farm problem more difficult, if not impossible, to solve.

"It is our dedication to improving farm income that causes the Farm Bureau to put emphasis on its positive program to expand markets at home and abroad, to improve agricultural research and education with special emphasis on those activities that cut costs and raise income, and to produce for the market what consumers want instead of producing for government storage irrespective of market needs.

"It is our conviction that the incomes of farmers will be maintained at the highest possible levels if we allow opportunity for the price system to perform for agriculture the functions

of the nation for 1956. As in other states they are living and working with Farm Bureau families for a period of ten months in a program to promote international good will and understanding.

This program is promoted by the American Farm Bureau. It is in its third year. See articles in this edition about young farmer trainees from other nations.

which it alone can adequately provide—that is, to serve as the main balance wheel between supply and demand.

"We in agriculture need sound economic answers—not political expedients."

Potter Tells Senate Farm Bill is Bad

"Senate Bill 3183 which proposes to restore 90% of parity prices on various commodities is a bad bill," Senator Charles E. Potter of Michigan told the United States Senate in the debate March 6. Senator Potter said:

"We simply cannot go in two directions at one time. This legislation offers no solution for the agricultural dilemma in which we find ourselves.

"On the one hand it provides for a soil bank plan designed to remove land from agricultural production in a manner that would lead to the gradual reduction of the present agricultural surpluses in government storage, but at the same time its enactment would restore rigid 90% high supports on basic commodities.

"That's a policy that has been to a large degree responsible for our present critical surpluses.

"We all agree that farm income has not kept pace with our general national prosperity, and certainly most are agreed that the problem is caused primarily by the tremendous surpluses of farm commodities now being held in government warehouses.

"We oppose a return to 90% high rigid supports because it is the factor which created these surpluses, and if we return to these supports, it will continue to aggravate the situation.

"Not only will the markets for basic commodities be plunged deeper and deeper but when cheap grain flows over into the livestock and dairy markets those, too, are

forced downward.
"Our farmers don't want government money in the way of help—they want a normal free market which is not suppressed by the shadows of these overwhelming surpluses held in government warehouses.

"Our entire national economy is in danger. We know that our American economy cannot prosper in the fields of business and industry and at the same time be wasting away in agriculture. This farm problem is one which concerns all of us. We must give the farmers the kind of a market in which there is a normal relationship between supply and demand.

"President Eisenhower's nine-point farm program points the way for that kind of a market but we cannot have a return to 90% rigid supports."

Michigan First to Pass 1955 Goal

March 15 Michigan was the first state in the American Farm Bureau to pass its membership total for 1955.

On that day 65,923 families were members of the Michigan Farm Bureau. This compares with the

final figure of 65,830 for 1955. The American Farm Bureau Federation reports its total membership as 56,158 higher than it was at this time a year ago.

The average middle-aged person would be much happier if he had less weight to throw around.

Change to This All-Season Oil!

UNICO 10W-30 motor oil flows as readily as 10W grade oil at low temperatures for quick starting.

IT KEEPS the full protection of a 20 or 30 grade oil as the engine reaches normal high operating temperatures.

Unico 10W-30 high detergent oil is a new, all-purpose, all-season motor oil. It is the best protection against the major causes of engine wear and fouling conditions.

READY FOR YOU in quart, and 5 gallon cans, and drums. See your local Farmers Petroleum Co-op Distributor, or County Distribution Agent.

All new!

Black Hawk

America's Greatest Tractors!

New Black Hawk Golden Eagle
A big, 4-plow diesel, at a price every farmer can afford.

MORE OATS PER ACRE

WITH FARM BUREAU SEEDS

OTHER FIELD SEEDS TO FIT YOUR NEEDS:

LEGUMES

- Certified Jacksons
- Certified Eatons
- Certified Craigs
- Certified Clintons
- Alfalfa
- Alsike Clover
- Ladino Clover
- Red Clover
- Birdsfoot Trefoil

Michigan farmers are reporting larger oat crops by using Farm Bureau Brand seed. Join them this spring. At harvest-time watch the increased crop. Ask your Farm Bureau dealer for:

See Your Farm Bureau Dealer

You Can Lick Mites Fast with GENITE EM-923!

AMAZING "ONE-SHOT" MITICIDE For Early Season Mite Control

Here's what you've been looking for—an early season mite spray so efficient it gives control far into summer with a single application...one that's effective on apples, peaches, pears, plums and prunes...reduces the number of mid-summer sprays needed, thereby lessening the problem of residue on fruit.

Orchard Brand GENITE EM-923 does all these things and more. Plan ahead for bigger orchard profits by using it this year. A product of General Chemical research, Genite EM-923 has been tested and proved at Experimental Station orchards in 28 states and three Canadian provinces, and used by California commercial growers for years.

A Little Goes Far! Just 1½ pints make 100 gallons of full-strength solution. Recommended use is any time from dormant spray to petal-fall spray. Compatible with most pre-fruit-formation spray materials. No separate miticide sprays generally necessary.

Be sure of a supply when you need it...order from your Orchard Brand dealer now.

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SPRING Is Here!

WITH SPRING we find Mother Nature with lots and lots of little chickens, turkeys, pigs, calves, lambs, and what have you? Guinea hens?

YOU MAY HAVE some of these strangers on your farm. This is where we (your Feed Department) come into the picture. We can offer you feeds made for you under the guidance of research men who constantly are finding out ways that help you grow livestock more effectively.

We make your feeds "Open Formula" so that you can ask the research men if Farm Bureau feeds are well made, balanced rations that deliver the growth power to Mother Nature's children.

We want you to know your feeds,—and know them well. We'd like to have you try your Farm Bureau feeds if you are not using them now. Ask your feed man to get Farm Bureau feeds for you. We'll appreciate your help.

FARM BUREAU FEEDS are as good as present knowledge of nutrition permit. We are learning constantly from the college research men how to use newer knowledge to make Farm Bureau feeds better.

SERVING YOU is our aim. We can't help you if you do not ask for our aid. We can do our best if you remember we are on your team. We want you to get everything that a feed can supply.

Farm Bureau Feeds Are Unexcelled!

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc. FEED DEPT.

see the famous "Yellow and Red" fleet

Come see them! You'll like the bold racy distinction of the new yellow and red color styling. You'll find new power and lugging ability to cope with every job... "new-car" handling ease... independent live power take-off... fingertip hydraulic controls... a new comfort ride... a built-in cigarettelighter... and even a radio, as optional equipment.

Yes, this is a new trend—in tractor performance—in tractor values. It's the Cockshutt trend, introduced by this great new Black Hawk line of 7 models—diesel and gas—ranging in power from the popular 2-pow "20" to the big, heavy-duty 5-pow "50".

Before you buy any tractor—TRY A BLACK HAWK. First in performance, quality, economy and in TRADE-IN VALUE, too.

See your Black Hawk-Cockshutt dealer now—for the best trade-in ever.

New Black Hawk "50"
Does the impossible in 4-5 plow work. Diesel or Gas.

New Black Hawk "35"
A husky 3-pow plus tractor. 198 cu. inch engine.

New Black Hawk "20"
Finest 2-pow tractor low silhouette. 140 cu. inch engine.

Black Hawk by Cockshutt

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Activities of Women of Michigan Farm Bureau

District 3

Mrs. Walter Wolfgang, Chairman
Chelsea, R-2

Macomb county women made dresses ranging from size 3 to 14 years to be given to families, where they are needed. During the winter months they met every two weeks and sewed cancer pads. A collection of money and some boxes of powder, creams and lotions were taken to the Polio Center near Farmington.

We have kept up our state projects. For the April meeting there will be a film shown on cancer and for the May meeting the women asked to see a film on polio and the treatment of the disease.

The District 3 council met in our county this spring. Camp for District 3 was planned and will be held at Haven Hills on M-59.

The Unesco gift coupons were distributed to us by our district chairman, Mrs. Wolfgang.

The names of candidates for the different offices of the district were read and approved by the council members. Each candidate must bring a written approval from her county board before she can be accepted. Mrs. Allen Penzien, Chairman.

District 4

Mrs. Robert Weisgerber,
Chairman
Ionia, R-2

All the counties in District 4 are striving for better attendance in 1956.

Ionia County had 26 groups out of 30 represented at the county meeting in January. Mrs. Harold Funk of Lake Odessa is county chairman. Mrs. Elwood Brake spoke on the many changes in school laws. He said the new school code is now available in book form and may be had at his office in Ionia at cost of \$1.

The County Womens Committee has been very interested in a trip Mrs. Russell Hartzler made to Europe last summer. She was their February speaker and told of her experiences as cook in an international work camp in Germany. Mrs. Hartzler is the wife of our State CROP chairman, Russell Hartzler of Clarksville.

Other topics of interest our womens committee will plan their programs around are health, conservation, safety, citizenship and dairying.

Several Farm Bureau Community groups in the south part of Ionia county and in neighboring Barry county cooperated with business men and civic leaders in Lake Odessa to stage a very fine Rural-Urban day, the second one of its kind in two years.

The Lake Odessa school system, Farm Bureau, 4-H club agent, Consumers Power Co., Michigan State University and State CROP office contributed in making this an outstanding example of what can be accomplished by rural and urban groups working together.

Barry County Women, with Mrs. L. A. Day as chairman, have been hard at work on an informative and educational program.

This past year they had the most successful two day camp at the "Y" camp at Algonquin Lake of any held in the seven years of camping experience.

At the present time they are sponsoring a program for topical fluoride treatment of teeth throughout the county in cooperation with the State Health Dept.



Unico Ac-Cent for Beautiful Room Interiors

This new Acrylic Latex paint turns tired, dull rooms into bright, new colorful interiors. Rolls or brushes on with a velvet smooth finish over any surface. Dries in an hour. No paint odor. Highly scrubable and easy to clean.

Redecorate with Unico Ac-Cent - a wide range of beautiful colors to choose from.

See Your Farm Bureau Paint Dealer

ation with the State Health Dept. Only 4 and 5 year olds and 2nd, 5th and 8th graders are being treated.

Barry county sent its chairman, Mrs. Day, to the AFBF annual meeting at Chicago. She came home inspired and full of enthusiasm over the job she has to do in this great organization.

Kent County Womens Committee under the leadership of Mrs. Maylon Estes, have as a project for 1956, the establishment of a blood bank. It will be available to all Farm Bureau members and their families. The project is now well underway. Names of blood donors are being secured.

The group has had as speaker a lawyer, an interior decorator, and a representative of Kent County Juvenile Home.

Mr. Myers, the lawyer, spoke on legal matters of special interest to farmers regarding liability and responsibility.

Mrs. Veldman, an interior decorator, from a Grand Rapids dept store spoke of latest trends in home furnishings and decor.

Miss Pratt of the Juvenile Home explained the work of the home and cited many interesting cases.

Ottawa County Womens Committee with Mrs. George Small-egan as chairman have been very interested in mentally retarded children.

Their speaker on this subject, Mrs. Holms from Spring Lake, told of the practice long ago of keeping retarded children hidden or confined. Then the States began to show an interest and built a few institutions to care for them.

In 1950 a group of people (other than the parents) organized in Spring Lake to help retarded children. This organization was known as the "Haven Foundation for Retarded Children." It grew into the Michigan Association for Retarded Children. Their slogan is "Out of Darkness into the Light."

All five counties in District 4 are very much interested in the school situation. At our district meeting in April we will hear a debate team give the pros and cons of "Federal Aid to our Schools." This will be followed by an address by Mr. Ben Thompson of radio station WION, Ionia. He was a press representative at the White House Conference on Education at Washington, D. C.

District 8

Mrs. Martin Stockmeyer, Chmn.
Reese, R-1

District 8 Farm Bureau Women's meeting is April 11 at the Eagle Church of God. Drive north of Clare on US-27 to third crossroad, turn east 3 miles, and north one mile. Coffee will be served from 9:30 to 10:00 o'clock.

The morning session will be featured by "The Story of Farm Bureau Services" with slides and told by either Keith Tanner or Maynard Brownlee. Pot-luck dinner at noon.

In the afternoon several students of Gladwin High School will present a debate on "Federal Aid to Education." A report on the White House Conference on Education will be given by someone who attended that meeting.

Ladies, reserve April 11 for a trip to Clare as all Farm Bureau Women of District 8 are cordially invited to come.

Gladwin county women entertained Mrs. Karker at their February meeting. It was featured by a handkerchief exchange. The safety chairman reported that a film, "What to do Before the Fire Department Arrives," is available for group showing.

any sore that does not heal

...is the first of the seven commonest danger signals that may mean cancer...but should always mean a visit to your doctor.

The other six danger signals are: 1 (above) 2 A lump or thickening, in the breast or elsewhere 3 Unusual bleeding or discharge 4 Any change in a wart or mole 5 Persistent indigestion or difficulty in swallowing 6 Persistent hoarseness or cough 7 Any change in normal bowel habits.

For other facts about cancer that may some day save your life, phone the American Cancer Society office nearest you, or write to "Cancer" in care of your local Post Office.

American Cancer Society

able for group showing.

Saginaw county Women's Committee is planning a Rural-Urban conference for its April meeting. At the February meeting Mrs. B. H. Baker was auctioneer for a "white elephant" sale. Mrs. Holly Hubbell, United Nations chairman, was presented with a miniature plaque of the United Nations Building in New York City.

District 9

Mrs. Ernest Heim, Chairman
Traverse City, R-4

Recognition Meeting. The Women's Committee of North West Michigan held their February meeting at the Traverse City H.S. School cafeteria at a pot-luck supper.

Guests included county directors and their wives, husbands of the members of the Womens Committee and other Farm Bureau couples; 107 persons attended.

At a joint meeting following the supper, Mrs. Louis Dunn, chairman of the Womens Committee, paid tribute to James Harris, first president of Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau in 1936. She also introduced other past presidents, all of whom were present. They were Herrick Waterman, Robert Seaberg, Julius Kratochvil, Harry Ansoorge and William Blanchard.

Mrs. Dunn also named the past chairman of the Womens Committee, all but two of whom were present.

The chairmen, in the order in which they served are: Mrs. Wm. Hoolihan, Mrs. Eva Riehl, Mrs. Ernest Heim, Mrs. W. F. Wilson, Mrs. Kirk Bixby, Mrs. Arthur Stephan, Mrs. Oliver Tompkins, and Mrs. Ellsworth Behne.

Harry Launer described the beginnings of Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau. Mrs. Hoolihan reviewed the history of the Womens Committee, which was organized in 1944.

This meeting sponsored by the Womens Committee is the first recognition meeting to be held in Northwest Michigan. It proved so successful that others will be held in the future.

District 10-E

Mrs. Vernon Kingsbury,
Chairman, Alpena, R-1

Alcona County. Alcona county women held their March meeting at Micado Hall. 18 members were present. Program booklets were made and distributed to each lady. All three state projects were accepted. \$5 was sent to the Sister Kenny Foundation. A county nurse's scholarship is again a project. \$100 per year for 3 yrs. \$48 was turned over to new county library for furniture.

Plans are being made to help with the cancer drive in April. Mrs. J. R. Hughes, of the Alcona County Cancer Society and Mrs. M. Tarr, county nurse, were guests at their March meeting. Films were shown which were of great interest and were very helpful for the volunteer workers of the coming cancer drive.

Presque Isle County Farm Bureau is off to a fine start this year under the capable chairmanship of Mrs. Otto Mendrick of Rogers City. They have accepted all state projects.

95 members were present at a recent meeting held at their local Radio station WHAR. Several recordings were made at the radio station.

At their last meeting the Women entertained their husbands. 82 were present. Mr. Don Kilpatrick was guest speaker. He spoke on Commodities and Markets and Citizenship. The evening was spent in entertaining the husbands with skits, songs, and musical selections.

Ogemaw County, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Clayton Clements, is very busy. To replenish their treasury they are selling crochet cotton, rust remover and "Danny Duzits."

Plans were made to serve a dinner March 22 to the Farmers Elevator Coop meeting.

A rural urban banquet is planned for April 4 in Prescott.

Iosco County women met with Mrs. Oren Ulman at Towas City. Mrs. Wm. Sherman, vice-chairman, presiding due to illness of chairman Mrs. Pringle.

\$50 was made at the Farm Bureau victory dinner put on by the women.

Special speaker was Mrs. Watson, of Towas, who spoke on cancer. The women plan to help with the coming cancer drive in April. Films were also shown on cancer.

Mrs. Robinson, safety chairman, gave a very interesting report on safety. Three new women were welcomed.

Alpena County, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Emel Kreuger will be a very busy group of women trying to follow the program submitted by program committee.

At their February meeting at the Home of Mrs. John Behling they had two speakers. Herbert Fox, chairman of Hospital board, who spoke on "Hospital rates." Also Duane Bandy, regional representative of Blue Cross-Blue Shield who spoke on "Blue Cross rates."

At their March meeting held with Mrs. Otto Generick they had Dr. Parmenter of the County Health Department. He spoke on "What the County Health Dept. does for you."

The Women are busy helping the board of directors pick a Dairy Princess from Alpena county. A dairy princess ball is being planned to honor the lucky miss.

Plans are being made to sponsor another 4-H award dinner to honor 4-H club leaders.

A rural urban tour and a rural urban meeting are planned for early summer.

Set Dates for 12th Annual Women's Camp

June 5, 6 and 7 have been set as the dates for the 12th annual Farm Bureau Women's Camp sponsored by the Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau women's committee, according to Mrs. Rex Core, camp director.

The three-day outing and conference will be held at the Twin Lakes 4-H camp near Traverse City. The camp usually is attended by more than 100 Farm Bureau women from counties all over the state.

"Adventures in Michigan" will be the theme of the camp this year. Judge Ormond Danford of Traverse City will be the keynote speaker.

Other speakers scheduled for the camp are Dr. E. C. Beck of Central Michigan College; Mrs. Clarissa Young, a detective lieutenant of the Lansing police force; Dr. John T. Ferguson of the Traverse City State Hospital; Mrs. O. F. Jensen of Glen Lake; Mrs. J. H. Dugal of Traverse City; and Jack Yeager, executive secretary of Michigan Farm Bureau.

Reservations for the camp should be made with Mrs. Harold Frolmholz, Traverse City, R-4. She is camp secretary.

Mrs. Oliver Tompkins is assistant camp director and Mrs. Kirk Bixby is treasurer.

Other committee chairmen for the 1956 event are Mrs. Walter Donner, placement; Mrs. Lars Halvorsen, vespers; Mrs. William Hoolihan, publicity; Mrs. Edmund Killman, badges; Mrs. Ernest Bussa, concessions; Mrs. David Minsker, dining room; Mrs. Marvin Stricker, food; and Mrs. Harvey Dobson, pianist.

The all-popular hamburger journeyed across the Atlantic from the German seaport city with a similar name.

Flower Apron



7086
by Alice Brooks

A full-blooming flower is this beautiful apron - fashioned from remnants, in two shades of glowing color! Thrilling hostess gift; bazaar best-seller!

Pattern 7086: Embroidery transfers, directions for making a "flower" apron, 16 inches long.

Send 25c (in coins) for EACH pattern to: Michigan Farm News, 263 Needlecraft Service, P. O. Box 162, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, New York. Add Five Cents for EACH pattern for 1st-class mailing. Send an additional 25c for Needlework Catalogue.

What's New in Spring Wear?

What's new in topwear fashion this spring?

Cropped jackets and slender coats in colors of navy blue and lively beige seem to be taking the spotlight, declares Florence Rann, clothing specialist at Michigan State University.

Coats, cut easy and straight, are really quite different from the short and finger-tip length coats we've been wearing the past few years. Some have tuxedo fronts with no fastening at all and some are buttoned. Although some coats are full, most are designed with a slim look to be worn over sheath dresses. Interest in the coats may come from the fabric design, a Martingale belt or Empire closing or a large shawl collar or cape.

125 Women at District Camp

MRS. HAROLD NYE Olivet, Chairman, District 5

Approximately 125 Farm Bureau women from Districts 1, 2 and 5 enjoyed a two-day camp at St. Mary's Lake, Battle Creek on March 6 and 7.

Attendance was: District No. 1, 39; No. 2, 53; No. 5, 20; visitors, 13. Our visitors were Farm Bureau women from other districts, including our State Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Ernest Heim, and four other ladies from Northwest District 9.

Camp chairman was Mrs. Byron Eley, Chairman of District 1. Mrs. Howard Corbus of District 2 was program chairman. Singing and recreation was led by Mrs. Fern Brandt of District 5, with Mrs. Don Pierce of District 1 serving as pianist.

Mrs. Harold Nye, chairman of District 5, had charge of the Tuesday morning program. In the absence of Mrs. Carl Toppliff of Ingham county, Mrs. Byron Eley led devotions which were most inspirational and were centered around the Easter story. Mrs. Robert Farley of Calhoun county took charge of the salute to our flag. Introductions were presented by Mrs. Leta Sanford, Chairman of District 2.

Mr. Dan Sturt, agricultural economist from MSU, who has worked with agricultural policies both abroad and in Washington, told us that farmers have some big decisions to face today. The total farm income is down 20% to 25%, but the per capita farm income is down only 7%, due to the fact that there are less persons farming.

Prosperity seems to be every-

where else but in agriculture. Over one million full-time farmers have an annual cash income of less than \$1000 a year. One of the decisions which we must make is how much government support do we want? The soil bank program is also one which should be studied very thoroughly by farmers at this time.

Mrs. John Watling, county chairman of Clinton county, served as chairman of the Tuesday afternoon session. She introduced Thomas J. Noonan, public relations man for the A & P Company. He explained the operation of his company and what it is doing to meet competition in its field of work.

Peter J. Sikkema, state coordinator of commodity relations for the Michigan Farm Bureau, said that farmers must take their stand in regard to how much they are going to allow the government to dictate to them.

Rev. Wilson Tennant of Holt, presented a lovely vesper service to the group. She showed pictures and gave a talk on their family's trip to Europe recently. We were very grateful for the privilege of having Mrs. Tennant with us for this service.

Mrs. John Walter was program chairman for Wednesday morning. Devotions led by Mrs. William Sherman, Farm Bureau regional man, Clarence King and Ray DeWitt, and Mrs. Marjorie Karker conducted a panel. They gave a brief history of Farm Bureau and its accomplishments since 1919.

Mrs. Karker told the women how all of us become informed on Farm Bureau views, resolutions and thinking as developed

Some of the summer coats, describes Miss Rann, are practically sleeveless—very light and airy. Fabrics range from silk to rayon to cotton and linen.

Cropped jackets are newest, but jackets range in length from a very brief bolero ending close under the bustline to the hip-bone length. The snug little bolero may cover a sleeveless scoop neckline type of dress or a slim dress with either cap or set-in leaves. Boxy jackets, according to Miss Rann, like slim or

nipped-waist jackets, are equally popular and easy to wear. Bloused jackets and jacket dresses seem to be part of the spring picture, too.

Navy and beige are the big basic colors this spring, but all variations of these will be good. Miss Rann lists some of them as strawberry soda pink, butter-scotch yellow, mint and lime greens, orange sherbet, red and white peppermint candy stripes and frosted coffee.

Attending to your own business is one of the most effective ways to fight competition.

Dr. Margaret Ohlson, head of the Dep't of Food and Nutrition of MSU, spoke on the "Diet Craze." She showed charts revealing the effect of foods on health. She also answered many questions presented to her by the women. She very strongly stressed the importance of milk, which cannot be replaced by any other food.

Foreign Trainees. The afternoon panel was moderated by Mr. Clare McGhan of Michigan Farm Bureau. It consisted of four young farm trainees, working on farms here in America for 10 months—one each from England, Turkey, Japan and British Guiana, South America.

They told of the customs and farming methods in their homelands, and answered questions asked of them by the group.

The young man from Turkey said that he felt he must tell us how very fortunate we are to have good home, good furniture, TV's, cars, etc. "In Turkey farmers have a hard time to live," he said.

Chairmen from Districts 1, 2 and 5 are all very appreciative for the splendid cooperation from their members and to all those who helped to make this camp the success that it was. We are looking forward to a "repeat performance" of this same group next year.

There is room for everybody in this big world, but we can't all have front row seats.

Soft Flattery



9085
12-20
by Marianne Martin

The soft summer dress—ideally feminine, always flattering! This graceful version derives its lovely lines from the soft gathers at yoke and skirt. Picture is now in misty-sheer voile or nylon—pretty with little bow-trimmed sleeves, or airy-cool sleeveless!

Pattern 9085: Misses' Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Size 16 takes 4 1/2 yards 35-inch fabric.

Week's Sewing Buy



9306
SIZES 2-8
by Marianne Martin

Keep her playing happily all summer in this neat, sweet three-piece set! Favorite smock with roomy pockets to hold her toys—easiest sewing, opens flat to iron! Shorts and pedal pushers—match or contrast smartly in seersucker, denim, sailcloth!

Pattern 9306: Children's Sizes 2, 4, 6, 8. Size 6 smock and shorts takes 2 yards 35-inch.

Send 35c (in coins) for EACH pattern to: Michigan Farm News, P. O. Box 42, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, New York. Add Five Cents for EACH pattern for first-class mailing.

Send 25 cents for the Spring-Summer Fashion World, illustrating in color scores of delightfully wearable fashions for every size and occasion. Sew these practical design patterns for the season ahead.



Mr. Robert H. Kennedy (right), President of the Detroit Electrotyping Co., and Chairman of the Detroit Employing Electrotypers and Stereotypers Association and Mr. Velmor Bartrem, President of the Detroit Electrotypers Union No. 54, make the same statement with equal satisfaction:

"We have written Blue Cross-Blue Shield into our collective bargaining agreement"

Mr. KENNEDY: "When our collective bargaining agreement came up for renegotiation a year ago, the major demand the union made was that Blue Cross - Blue Shield benefits be written into the agreement on an industry-wide basis."

Mr. BARTREM: "That is right. Our union preferred Blue Cross-Blue Shield protection."

Mr. KENNEDY: "Before that, the Employing Association spent quite a bit of money investigating the different kinds of hospital-surgical-medical insurance programs. We decided that there was nothing like Blue Cross - Blue Shield."

Mr. BARTREM: "I have it and like it. I've heard no complaints about Blue Cross - Blue Shield."

Mr. KENNEDY: "I have it, too. I wouldn't be without it."

Blue Cross-Blue Shield
Michigan Hospital Service • Michigan Medical Service
411 EAST JEFFERSON AVENUE, DETROIT 26

Michigan's Best Young Farmers in '56

Russell Buck, 33, of Freeland R-3 is Michigan's outstanding young farmer of 1956. He is the choice of the Michigan Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Buck will represent Michigan at Pittsburgh April 11 and 12 when the U. S. Junior C. of C. and the American Petroleum Institute select the four outstanding young farmers in the United States. Russell is a member of Saginaw County Farm Bureau.

Keith King, 33, of Greenleaf R-1, and member of Montcalm County Farm Bureau, won second place in the 1956 nomination for his outstanding career as a young farmer.

Bernard E. Kuhns, 32, of 3055 Beck road, Howell, won third place in the nominations for his superior record as a young farmer. He is a member of Livingston County Farm Bureau.

Corn Borer

One of the most promising developments in the control of corn borers is a granular insecticide—still in the test stage.

Dairy records help a farmer do a better job of culling and feeding.

I know I'll get RESULTS



For rural or urban gardens

I planted FARM BUREAU Garden Seeds

Your Farm Bureau seed dealer can make 150 leading varieties of vegetable and flower seeds available to you. These seeds are available in packets and 1/4 lb. and 1 lb. packages.

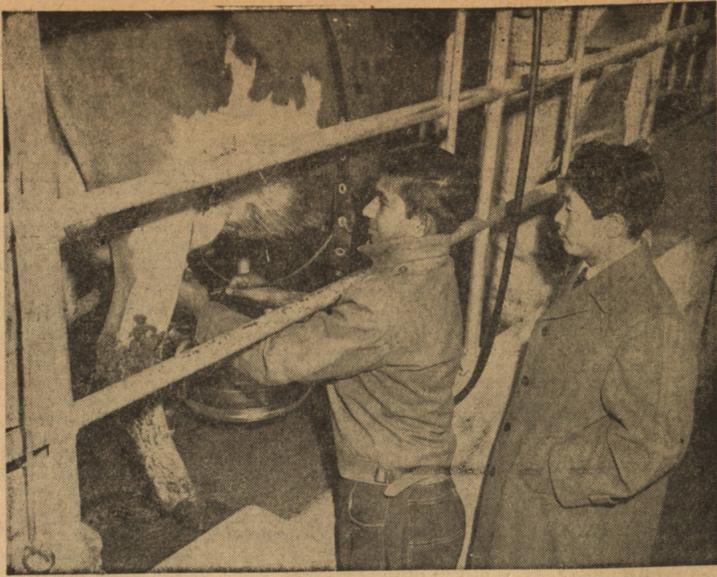
Look over this list of the most important kinds of vegetable seeds for general use and freezing:

- BUSH BEANS:** Tendergreen, Top Corn, Imp. Golden Wax, Pencil Pod Wax
- POLE BEANS:** Ky. Wonder
- LIMA BEANS:** Fordhook Bush, Henderson Bush
- CORN:** Golden Bantam, Golden Cross Bantam, Golden Freezer, Thomas Laxton
- PEAS:** Laxton Progress, Laxtonian, Little Marvel



See your **FARM BUREAU Seed Dealer**

"We know they'll grow."



ABDOOL AHMA finds milking easier in Michigan than in British Guiana. Japanese farm trainee Keijiro Nagata watches Ahma do chores on the Western Michigan College farm near Kalamazoo.

Farm Bureau Families Hosts To Youths from Other Lands

ROY HOLDING, Farm Editor, Kalamazoo Gazette

Seven area farmers are playing a role in a private little Marshall Plan dreamed up by American rural families.

They hope to win friendship of their counterparts in foreign lands by sharing the technical secrets that make the American farmer the productive in the world.

It's a mighty generous gesture when you realize one of the reasons for the current doldrums of American agriculture is the loss of foreign markets due to the increased productivity of other nations.

The seven Southwest Michigan farm families are among 140 in the U. S. who have thrown open their homes to 140 young farmers from 25 countries. The program is sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

For almost a year the visitors work and live on the American farms. They'll write copious notes, expose roll after roll of film, and memorize American methods.

Then they'll go home to transplant the seeds of American agricultural ingenuity in such places as Yugoslavia, Nationalist China, Southern Rhodesia, Norway, Denmark, South America, Germany, Italy, Spain and every dominion of the United Kingdom.

Abdool Ahma, mustached young man of 22 who speaks English with the clipped tones of a British scholar, will carry what he learns on the Western Michigan College farm back to British Guiana in South America.

It's a long way from Kyushu, the southernmost island of Japan to Richland, Michigan, but Keijiro Nagata, 20, is sure the trip will be well worthwhile. Already he has learned things from Russell Hazel and his son-in-law, Jim Telfer that he believes can be used by him and his dad on their six-acre farm and rice paddy.

A boal him—of Kay—as the Hazels call him—is watching one of Michigan's finest dairy farming operations at the M. G. Dickerson Ups and Downs farm near Bloomington. Kay and Ryasuke Yamaguchi were among four Japanese to come to the U. S. under the program.

German farmers are living on the farms of Harry Webb at Paw Paw and Robert Bainbridge near Marcellus. The Harry Shannon family in St. Joseph County has a Turkish guest. A Chilean farmer is laboring on the farm of Clinton Carter near Constantine.

The young men paid \$50 a

month, room and board by their hosts. The American farmer must also contribute \$20 a month to the Farm Bureau to help pay transportation and underwrite other expenses of the program.

Like any other foreign agriculturalist, the farm trainees are impressed by the mechanical might of the U. S. farmer.

Milking the Guernseys on the Western Michigan College farm is almost a picnic to Abdool—even though there are more than twice as many as he milks at home.

"We must milk our 14 Holsteins by hand. These milking machines you use here are wonderful. Just hook them up to the cow and you are done," says Abdool—or Mike, as WMC Agricultural Instructor Howard Corbus and farm operator Alonzo Lloyd have nicknamed him.

On their 14 acres near Georgetown in British Guiana, Mike and his father raise rice, vegetables, and feed for their dairy cattle. Their principal problem is common to American farmers.

"We need more land to work." He can't help but envy the American farmer's machinery a little bit.

"We cut our rice by hand. To thrash it, we hook the bull up to a treadmill which separates the hull from the grain . . ."

Kay's farm in Japan is a little more mechanized. He uses small machines to cut, grind and cure the green tea grown on two acres. An ancient garden tractor of American make prepares the ground for winter wheat, and a thrasher is hired to separate straw from the grain. But the one cow on the farm is used as a beast of burden, laboring in the family's two-acre rice paddy.

The Farm Bureau program isn't a one-way street. The visitors enrich the life of their hosts.

"Kay is a wonderful young man. He is neat and friendly and always willing to lend a hand. He can see what has to be done and pitches right in to do it," says Hazel.

Mike is the second trainee on the Western Michigan College farm. Jannes DeBoer of the Netherlands made such a wonderful impression that Mike moved right in when Jan returned home early this month.

"It's a wonderful experience for everybody concerned," says Corbus. "I'm sure that when Jannes gets home and tells his experiences we are going to have a lot more friends in the Netherlands."

The essence of the program could be the answer to many of the world's troubles—uniting the eagerness to learn with the desire to teach for the betterment of humanity.

Mauch on Soil Bank

The soil bank plan proposed by the Eisenhower administration will give farmers more purchasing power but it won't control production or surpluses for long. That's the opinion of Dr. Arthur Mauch, a Michigan State University farm economist.

The plan calls for storing soil fertility for future use. The soil removed from cash crop production will yield even more when it is again cultivated.

Directors of Nat'l Council of Co-ops

Directors of the National Council of Farmers Cooperatives for 1956 includes: Livestock Division—Arthur J. Ingold of Blissfield, Michigan, a representative of the National Livestock Producers Ass'n; Purchasing Division: J. F. Yaeger of Lansing, Michigan, representing the Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

Farm Bureau In Upper Peninsula

WESLEY S. HAWLEY, Coordinator, U. P.

Farm Bureau activities are progressing well in Delta and Menominee counties. Delta county has two new community groups and Menominee one more. We hope for two more in Delta and one more in Menominee yet this spring.

Thirteen groups have been organized in Delta and 16 in Menominee.

The members are active in legislative matters. They have written to their Senators and representatives regarding important bills.

Women's activities are well under way in both counties. Mrs. Marjorie Karker, coordinator of Farm Bureau women's activities, met with the committees and helped them plan. The Delta women's committee have plans for the next three months and Menominee for two.

Two of the Delta groups have availed themselves of Blue Cross-Blue Shield services. Mrs. Marjorie Gardner, co-ordinator of Blue Cross for Farm Bureau, met with the county boards and explained the Blue Cross procedure for enrolling the groups. Danforth and Boney Falls groups in Delta county have enrolled in Blue Cross. A meeting is scheduled for one of the Menominee groups this month to consider Blue Cross.

Both counties are putting forth efforts to reach their membership goals. Several more members have been added during the past two weeks and more will be added in the next few days. Some of the groups are trying to qualify for the three or more club. Some have their three or more new members.

We are considering the situation for organizing Chippewa and Baraga county Farm Bureaus. It is in our plans to try and organize these two counties this year as well as helping Delta and Menominee to grow.

Election Dates For 1956

(Clip and Save)

May 15. Democrats—Last date to hold special county conventions to select delegates to special state conventions.

May 23. Republicans—Last date for county convention described above.

June 14—Democrats—Last date to hold special state conventions to select delegates to national conventions.

June 22. Republicans—Last date for state conventions as above.

July 6. Last date to file petitions to amend State Constitution (General Election).

July 9. Last date to register for Primary Election.

Aug. 4. 2 p.m.—Deadline for absentee ballot applications for Primary.

Aug. 7. Primary Election.

Aug. 15-19. Political parties to hold county conventions between these two dates.

Sept. 1. Last date for holding State Party Convention.

Oct. 8. Last date for registration for General Election.

Nov. 3. 2 p.m.—Deadline for application for absentee ballots.

Nov. 6. General November Election.

Everyone knows you can't take it with you—the problem is to keep enough to enjoy yourself at the present time.



BONEY FALLS Community Farm Bureau representatives in Delta county met with M. J. Boucher (center) to enroll members of the group in Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Danforth Community Farm Bureau, also in Delta county, was the first to enroll its membership. More than 40,000 families in Farm Bureau have prepared Blue Cross-Blue Shield hospital-surgical-medical costs protection through membership in the Farm Bureau. More than 120,000 persons in those families are enrolled.

Give Titles For Days of Michigan Week

Your community, your organization and you should get busy on some appropriate observance of each one of the seven days of Michigan Week May 20-26.

Each day represents a significant idea upon which groups of all kinds can exercise their imagination, ingenuity and energy to make the third annual Michigan Week a great success. Here are the special days:

Michigan Spiritual Foundations Day, Sunday, May 20—for examination of the spiritual values of life in Michigan and of the Michigan history of all faiths.

Exchange of Mayors Day, Monday, May 21—when the heads of municipal government in cities and villages throughout Michigan will change places.

Michigan Hospitality Day, Tuesday, May 22—to emphasize that great asset, the natural friendliness of Michigan people, and to glorify the state's tourist industry.

Our Livelihood Day, Wednesday, May 23—when each community should examine the ways its people make their living.

Michigan Education Dev. Thursday, May 24—when attention will be focused on the schools, colleges and universities of the state.

Our Heritage Day, Friday, May 25—for an earnest look at the state's cultural background, its history and traditions.

New Frontiers Day, Saturday, May 26—for an eager look at the promise and opportunities of the years ahead.

The whole, sole purpose of Michigan Week is to build pride.



UNICO OIL FILTER ELEMENTS

FOR LONGER engine life and trouble-free performance, Unico oil filter elements can't be beat. Buy from your local Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Distributor or County Distribution Agent.

POULTRYMEN

See new windowless Dirkse laying house between Zeeland and Holland. 4,000 layers (Darby strain) laying 80% on Hawkins floor with Northco Ventilation. Order your chicks now. Higher profits in Random Sample Tests than most all the better Leghorns and hybrids. Records free. Also agents for Hawkins and Northco. You've never seen anything like it.

DIRKSE LEGHORN FARM

ZEELAND MICHIGAN

in **1956**

SPECIFY

Michigan Certified HYBRID SEED CORN

for

the highest yield of mature, top quality grain or silage corn. Order the variety and grade of Michigan Hybrid Seed Corn you want through your local elevator or seed dealer today.

MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Michigan State University
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

BARLEY • CORN • FIELD BEANS
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WHY buy 5 tons?

When **3 tons FARM BUREAU HIGH ANALYSIS FERTILIZER Will Do!**

3 TONS 5-20-20 CONTAINS SAME AMOUNT PLANT FOOD AS 5 TONS 3-12-12

Sold by Farm Bureau Dealers

there's nothing like **Farm Bureau's CHICK STARTER 20%**

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Shuman Raps Senate Wheat Dumping Plan

President Charles B. Shuman of the American Farm Bureau Federation said March 15 that the "domestic dumping plan for wheat voted by the Senate would have disastrous effects on the prices and incomes of most farmers."

"This plan has been presented as a two-price plan designed to meet competition in the foreign market, while at the same time supporting prices in the domestic food market," Shuman pointed out.

"Actually, the Senate plan is a 'three price plan'. It provides one price for wheat consumed as food in the U. S., a second price for foreign sales, and a third price—potentially the most significant—price to U. S. farmers for wheat consumed as livestock feed in this country.

"The real objective of the certificate plan is to dump the wheat surplus into the domestic feed market," he said.

The Federation president pointed out that "the fact is that we already have a two-price plan as far as the international market is concerned. We have been meeting foreign competition by subsidizing wheat exports and selling surplus wheat for foreign currencies."

"The Senate action constitutes a grave threat to the income of all farmers who depend on feed grain and livestock for their livelihood.

"This includes the producers of

wheat, corn, oats, barley, beef cattle, hogs, poultry, and dairy products. As of July 1, 1956, we will have a carry-over of more than 1,000,000,000 bushels of old crop wheat mostly in the Commodity Credit Corporation's hands.

"As adopted by the Senate this week, the certificate plan would permit the Secretary of Agriculture to unload the CCC's entire wheat surplus on the domestic feed market. This would have disastrous effects on the prices and incomes of all producers of feed grains, livestock, poultry, and dairy products.

"As far as feed grain and livestock producers are concerned, this action—if allowed to stand will more than cancel any good effects that are to be expected from the soil bank plan.

"The certificate plan also discriminates against the wheat producers who have been producing the types and qualities of wheat that the domestic food market demands.

"It treats all wheat producers alike regardless of whether they have been producing low-quality feed wheat or high-grade milling wheat.

"In effect it would put a tax on wheat producers who have been supplying the domestic food market for the benefit of those who have been producing wheat that is not wanted by the domestic food market."

If You Should Get Two Copies of News

It happens sometimes. For example, James Spencer and J. C. Spencer of Lapeer, R. 2, may or may not be the same person. If they are we have a duplication. It pains us to think of how many ways that could happen. If you should be receiving two copies of the paper, we'd appreciate a postcard telling us the name and address we should use, and the one which should be discontinued. Thank you. Michigan Farm News, PO Box 960, Lansing, Mich.

Time to Order GARDEN SEEDS

PLANT Farm Bureau's Michigan adapted garden seeds. Be assured of the best varieties of vegetables and flower seeds used in Michigan. In packets and in bulk at attractive prices. See your Farm Bureau Dealer. A postal card will bring one of our illustrated seed catalogs. Garden Seed Dep't Farm Bureau Services, Inc. P. O. Box 960 Lansing, Mich.

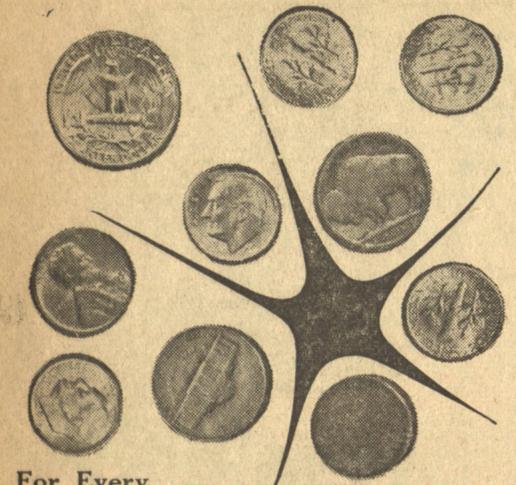
See Our New Barb Wire!

ASK YOUR Farm Bureau dealers to show you Unico's new, modern, 4-point, high tensile strength barb wire. It's the greatest improvement in wire in 30 years.

IT HAS TWICE the rust free life of standard wire • Made of high tensile steel for strength • Lighter weight for easier handling • Stays tight because of reverse twist design • Less cost for full 80 rod spools • Ask your Farm Bureau dealer about Unico's new barb wire!

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

CUT Operating Costs... BOOST Crop Returns!



For Every Dollar Invested in Farm Bureau Plant Food You Get Up to \$5 return

Farm Bureau high-analysis granulated fertilizers are formulated to give your soil all the nutrients it needs to provide you with MORE bushels per acre . . . thus lowering your farming cost and increasing your profits in a tightening farm market. For every \$1.00 invested you get up to \$5.00 in return.

Soil Test is Your First Step . . . Before you decide on analysis, have your soil tested. Find out what nutrients your soil needs, then supply these with the right Farm Bureau plant food. See your Farm Bureau dealer for FREE soil sample bags.

Save Extra Dollars with BULK Getting your Farm Bureau fertilizer in BULK will save you many more dollars. In addition you save time and labor. All of these add up beating the price squeeze.

For More Information on These Plant Foods See Your Farm Bureau Dealer

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. Fertilizer Dept Lansing, Michigan



JAMES R. ERSKINE (left) appointed manager of Hillsdale County Farmers Cooperative Ass'n, effective April 2, is shown receiving an award for scholarship and leadership as he completed the Elevator and Farm Supply course at Michigan State University in March.

George Greenleaf, coordinator of the training course, made the presentation.

The appointment was announced

by El Crane of Lansing, store supervisor for management services for Farm Bureau Services in this area. Hillsdale Farmers Cooperative is one of 15 farmers cooperatives managed by Farm Bureau Services. Mr. Erskine succeeds Cecil Paradine who is going into other work.

Mr. Erskine has been assistant manager at Chesaning Farmers Elevator and had further training at Saginaw, one of the largest retail and wholesale farm supply

operations of Farm Bureau Services.

He had farmed, and worked three years as a Dairy Herd Improvement Ass'n supervisor in Saginaw county. Included in this young man's experience are short courses in general agriculture and dairy herd improvement work at Michigan State. He was in the army 22 months, nine of them in Japan and Korea. Somewhere he became an expert caller of square dances. He's married, too.

Urge Reflectors On Railroad Cars

DAN E. REED Ass't Legis. Counsel, MFB

A fatal accident at an unguarded railroad crossing in Ottawa county influenced Representative Gerald R. Ford, Jr. to introduce a bill in Congress to require reflectors on all railway cars.

The proposal of the Kent-Ottawa congressman has the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

To support Ford in his campaign for safety, Representative George Gillespie, of Genesee county, introduced a resolution in the Michigan Legislature approving the bill.

In his resolution, Representative Gillespie points out that in the past nine years, 29% of all highway-railway accidents were caused by automobiles running into the side of railway cars. Seventy-one percent of these accidents occurred at night and 63% at unguarded crossings.

This protection for motorists has been urged by Farm Bureau members. County Farm Bureaus recommending such action in their resolutions include: Bay, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Newaygo, Osceola, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee and Washtenaw.

A resolution approved at the 1955 Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting states:

"All unlighted railroad cars, whether moving or standing still, constitute a menace to motorists at grade crossings. We urge national legislation requiring all railroad cars to be equipped with reflectors on each side."

Representative Gillespie, a prominent Farm Bureau leader in his county, has a special interest in Ford's proposal. A few years ago he had the unfortunate experience of running into the side of a moving freight train with unlighted cars.

Those bumper crops are taking a lot out of the soil, Mr. Buschlen said, and you'll have to put it back. A soil test can tell you just how much of which plant foods are needed.

Laboratory testing today is very accurate but how you take the sample out of the field has a lot to do with just how true the results are. Be sure to go seven inches deep for each boring unless you want a test on the sub-soil. Make several borings in the same type soil in the field. Mix these together thoroughly and then take the sample from that mix.

If there are areas in the field which have been cropped differently or are made up of different colored soils, take samples from each and test them separately. The cost of an extra soil test is a small investment for the higher yields and larger returns for your fertilizer dollar.

To assist farmers in packaging their soil samples for testing, Farm Bureau Services is making available, through its dealer associations, soil testing bags that have space for proper addressing and mailing along with detailed instructions as to how to gather the sample. These are available free to anyone needing soil sample bags.

Vaccinate

Guard against losses from Newcastle and infectious bronchitis disease outbreaks in your flocks by planning a vaccination program now, advise MSU authorities.

Don't find fault—until you first find a workable remedy.

Bay County's Record is a Challenge

DONALD K. KINSEY Roll Call Regional Ass't East Central Region

I heard a radio announcer on the radio plugging his product with the statement "We Challenge Them All!" It struck me that this ought to be the challenge of the Bay County Farm Bureau.

Why? Because Bay County Farm Bureau has a remarkable membership record.

This record is worthy of a challenge to any county in the United States. In fact, the intention is make such a challenge through the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Let's look at Bay's record. We start with the U. S. farm census of 1950. At that time Bay County listed 2842 farms. In 1954 this number had dropped to 2349 farms, a loss of 493 farms, or nearly 17% of the total.

Yet, in the same period, Bay County Farm Bureau rose in membership from 1209 to 1965.

In 1956, Bay County had already achieved 117% of its 1956 goal (as of January 19), and is still out "beating the bushes".

It is interesting to note that Bay County Farm Bureau was not satisfied with its membership goal for 1956. This goal was set at 1606 on a state basis. The County Board decided that their own county goal should be 1933. They raised their own sights by more than 300 members!

The actual membership increase from 1951—right after the census year—to 1955—right after another census year was 37%—in spite of a 17% loss in total farms!

Yes, here is a record worthy to challenge any other county in the United States. Bay County Farm Bureau's work shows that membership achievement can be done.

The record has been based on a faith in themselves, a strong belief and enthusiasm for their Farm Bureau, and cooperative effort on the part of the Farm Bureau members of the county. Our congratulations to Bay County Farm Bureau!

Save Pigs

Providing draft-proof shelters for bred sows is a big step in cutting baby pig losses, says Ed Miller, MSU animal husbandman.

Rabbits

A repellent on valuable trees and shrubs is a cheap, effective way to prevent damage by rabbits.

FROM **Start to Finish** FARM BUREAU **Hi-N-R-G** CHICK STARTER and BROILER RATION

Sold by Farm Bureau Dealers

Live Stock Exchange Has Greatest Year

R. H. Walton, general manager, told 800 delegates to the 34th annual meeting of the Michigan Live Stock Exchange March 17 that 1956 was their greatest year for volume of business and for membership. The meeting was held at Lansing.

The organization handled for members 128,149 cattle, 35,364 calves, 254,871 hogs, and 94,034 sheep for a total value of \$31,673,201.

The Exchange membership of 39,000 farmer shippers is the largest in the organization's history.

President Arthur Ingold said that during the year the Exchange organized a subsidiary corporation, the Michigan Livestock Producers Cooperative.

This company has been organized for the financing of stockyards facilities to be operated by the Exchange.

Capital is being raised in Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola counties to finance a market in the Thumb area.

P. O. Wilson, manager of the National Livestock Producers Ass'n, praised the delegate body on their organization. He said "Farmers must solve the farm problem for themselves—Congress cannot do it."

Mr. Wilson said 1955 produced a record supply of beef and to make the problem more severe the farmer broke all records in pork production.

The delegates voted 190 to 22 to commend Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson for his sound approach to the agricultural problem. The resolution said: "We urge him to continue to

resist with all the powers at his command the efforts of those who would impose price supports and controls upon the Livestock Industry."

The legislature was asked to appropriate \$300,000 to continue bovine tuberculosis testing in 1956-57. Michigan is a "modified accredited area." That means considered practically free of bovine tuberculosis because of the continuous testing program.

The Exchange delegates endorsed the program to eliminate Bang's disease of cattle. It urged that federal and state funds be continued to carry on this work.

The legislature was asked to provide additional men in the Michigan department of agriculture to insure that Michigan's livestock disease laws are enforced.

"The major cause of the spread of livestock diseases is the movement of diseased stock and their association with animals free of disease. Our laws are adequate protection if enforced."

President Ingold of Blissfield and Gerald Brian of Ada were re-elected to the board. One new member, Archie Cowan, livestock farmer from St. Clair county, was elected to succeed Mr. H. Stanley Vaughn of Dexter, who retired.

What is a Farmer?

To his wife, he's a big eater, a heavy sleeper and a worry.

To his minister, he's a believer in God in nature, and nature in God.

To a politician, he's a someone you talk about during elections.

To a business man, he's a customer.

To the banker, he's a depositor.

To his neighbors, he's a friend.

To his children, he's a man who always has a chore for them.

To his dog, he's a man with a quiet voice.

To the grocer, he's a God-send.

To the dairy operator, he's a name on a milk check.

To the insurance agent, he's a big risk.

To the mechanic, he's a mechanical wizard who fixes things himself.

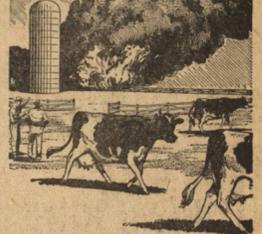
To the doctor, he's a physical wonder.

And to himself, well, only he can tell you that—but chances are, he won't.—Saginaw County Farm Bureau News.

Orchards

Nearly half of Michigan's orchards are magnesium deficient. Get leaf samples analyzed at MSU to find out about your orchard.

Preach only what you can practice if the occasion arises.



FIRE can't get far on a concrete farm

Far out from the nearest fire department . . . what will happen if fire breaks out in your house or barn?

Protect your family and the livestock and equipment on which your livelihood depends. Build or remodel with fire-safe concrete. Remember, concrete can't burn!

Concrete farm houses and buildings are moderate in first cost, need little maintenance and last a lifetime. If you need help with your concrete construction see your concrete contractor, ready-mixed concrete producer or building material dealer.

ONLY . . . FARM BUREAU SEEDS ARE GUARANTEED

Sold by Farm Bureau Dealers

Paste on post card and mail

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
Michigan National Tower, Lansing 9
Please send booklets listed below:

Name: _____
St. or R. No. _____
City: _____ State: _____

Revolutionary new UNICO TUBE LUBE B-550 Multi-Purpose Grease CARTRIDGE loads like a gun

EASY TO LOAD—Simply pull out and lock rear cap of gun, unscrew head from barrel, and insert Tube Lube cartridge into case.

EASY TO USE—Works like a wonder! No waste of grease, no messy hands when you use Tube Lube for your farm jobs.

EASY TO REFILL—Pull back cap on gun, unscrew head, push plunger forward to eject used Tube Lube cartridge. Load up and you're ready to go again!

Save Money—Prevent Grease Waste

There is no waste when you use the new Unico TUBE-LUBE grease cartridges. Grease is always fresh, clean and ready to use. Messy hand filling is eliminated. Takes only seconds to load. Simply insert grease cartridge in special TUBE-LUBE grease gun and you are ready for any lubricating job on the farm. Dirt, dust or moisture cannot contaminate grease. No clogging or air pockets to cause delays. TUBE-LUBE comes to you factory sealed, ready to load. Stock up with a case of 10!

Buy From Dealer

Buy from your local Co-op Bulk Plant and our County Distribution Agents

FARMERS PETROLEUM COOPERATIVE, INC.

Mine Phosphate this Summer

Central Farmers Fertilizer Company will start mining phosphate from its rich deposits in Idaho this year, according to Keith A. Tanner, manager of operations for Farm Bureau Services.

This announcement was made at the annual meeting of the National Fertilizer Association in Chicago, which has studied new problems in getting plant food to co-operative patrons. Tanner said that the fertilizer co-ops will ship approximately 100,000 tons of ground rock phosphate a year to regional co-operatives' treating plants.

President Joseph L. Lanter, of the Central Farmers Fertilizer Company, told the delegates attending the annual meeting that

two big changes in the chemical field put a new challenge to their co-operative fertilizer operation.

First, chemical research and changes in processes may make available concentrated phosphate materials in Idaho by 1958, he reported.

It is anticipated that the company will start to build a refining furnace in the near future. This 35,000 watt plant will turn out high analysis fertilizers.

Second, mergers of old-line companies are changing their financial and management set-up in the industry.

Lanter pointed out that "the independent producer of one basic element is giving way to large integrated firms covering

everything from basic resources to finished mixed fertilizers."

These combinations of merged firms may next go into direct retail selling and by-pass wholesalers, the fertilizer company president suggested. The Central Farmers Fertilizer Company is ready to meet the two challenges by its improvements and an expansion program.

The co-operative is owned by 16 regional farm supply co-operatives, including Farm Bureau Services, Inc., of Michigan. While Farm Bureau Services will not, at the present time, participate in the shipment of the 100,000 tons of ground rock phosphate, it is anticipated that when Central Farmers Fertilizer Company establishes its refining

manufacturing facilities, it will prove a great asset to the fertilizer manufacturing program of Farm Bureau Services in Michigan.

The reason that Farm Bureau Services is not participating in the current production is due to the higher cost of freight shipments on the unrefined rock phosphate product, Mr. Tanner points out. However, having the material available is good insurance should the occasion ever arise for need of the raw material.

Each of the 16 investing regional co-operatives are permitted to draw from the production the equivalent of their percentage investment in the national organization.

3 Price Wheat Plan Part Of Farm Bill

DAN E. REED
Ass't Legis. Counsel, MFB

Michigan Farm Bureau visitors in Washington on the AFBF 2 Million Member Award Program were shocked to see a coalition of Senators from cotton states and wheat states ram through a "3 price certificate plan" for wheat as a part of the omnibus farm bill.

The Michigan delegation was in the Senate gallery during the debate on the amendment proposed by Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas. It would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to adopt a plan providing a price of 100% of parity on that portion of the wheat crop consumed in the U.S. as human food. Wheat sold for export and wheat consumed at home for feed and other purposes would be sold at lower prices. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 54 to 39.

Russell of Georgia then moved to amend the bill by incorporating a similar plan for cotton. During the two hours of debate on the Russell amendment, it was pointed out that synthetics were already making big inroads in the cotton market and that a continued high domestic price would increase the shift toward cotton substitutes. The coalition lines were broken and the cotton amendment was defeated by a heavy vote.

While sometimes called "a 2 price plan," the Carlson amendment actually provides a 3 price plan: (1) 100% of parity for wheat used for human consumption, (2) a "fire sale" or dumping price on wheat sold in world markets in competition with friendly wheat producing nations and (3) a domestic dumping price on wheat competing in the feed market.

Referring to the 60 to 70 cents per bushel subsidy now in effect on wheat sold abroad, President Charles B. Shuman, told the Senate Agriculture Committee, "Since we are already subsidizing wheat exports in order to meet competition in the world market, it appears that the real objective of those who advocate adoption of some new multiple price system is to dump surplus wheat into the domestic feed market."

"This would mean the most unfair sort of competition for producers of corn and other feed grains such as oats, barley, and grain sorghums."

In regard to the Senate action of last week, President Shuman said, "In view of the present record supplies of feed grain and the present low level of hog and cattle prices, the Senators' action



REINHOLD BODENMULLER, 20, standing at left, a former German exchange student in the United States in 1951-52, has returned to make his home at Lake Odessa, Barry county, with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Shellenbarger and family. Mr. Shellenbarger is standing at the right. Seated are Mrs. Shellenbarger and Lee Shellenbarger. Reinhold made his home with the Shellenbargers during the year he spent here and was a ninth grade student at the Woodland school. Mr. Shellenbarger is a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

in opening the floodgates on the wheat surplus shows a callous disregard for the welfare of the feed grain and livestock sections of our economy. As far as feed grain and livestock producers are concerned, this action, if allowed to stand, will more than cancel any good effects that are to be expected from the Soil Bank Plan."

While the Carlson amendment calls for a referendum vote of wheat growers, Michigan producers would have little to say about the decision. Because of the acreage requirements established to qualify for voting in the referendum, more than 51% of the nation's wheat growers would be without a vote. Due to the smaller acreage of Michigan wheat fields, the percentage not entitled to vote in this state would be very much higher.

This is contrary to the recommendation approved by MFB voting delegates at the 1955 convention: "Because all growers of a commodity under a marketing quota are concerned, we urge that all producers of the crop be permitted to vote on marketing quotas regardless of acreage involved."

Variety Insures Good Diet

No one food is exactly like any other food and no food is complete in all nutrients. Milk products are high in calcium; meats are low. Meat, poultry eggs and beans are good sources of iron; milk is low in it. One kind of B vitamin abounds in meats, another in milk, and a third in whole grains. The best way to be sure of a good diet is to use a variety of main dishes and wide choices of other foods to complete the meal.

First Groups In Three or More Club

The following Community Farm Bureau Groups are the first to qualify for the Three or More Club by enrolling three or more Farm Bureau members to assist in reaching our goal of 70,000 families for 1956:

- Clinton county—Jolly Dutchman Community Farm Bureau Group.
- Ionia — LeValley Community Farm Bureau.
- Jackson—Blackman Community Farm Bureau.
- Manistee—Portage Community Farm Bureau.
- Muskegon—Cedar Creek Community Farm Bureau.
- Oceana — Shelby Community Farm Bureau.

More Turkeys

The most recent intention reports indicate that about six per cent more turkeys will be grown in 1956 than in 1955. Henry Larzelere—agricultural economist of Michigan State University, says that since the increase will be entirely in the heavy breeds, it is quite likely that the poundage will be increased by an even higher percentage.

68,437 This Edition

This is the number of copies of the Michigan Farm News mailed to subscribers April 1.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

On the Detroit market in 1954, for instance, Ohio supplied 38 per cent of the shell eggs. Indiana supplied 38 per cent of the live poultry. Michigan ranked second with about a third of the eggs and live poultry. Georgia supplied nearly half of the ready-to-cook poultry.

Mr. Moore emphasizes that Michigan poultry products must be top quality to compete with the imports. Exporting states always send the best and keep the poor quality stuff at home. Michigan growers have an advantage because they don't have to ship over long distances.

Mac thinks that the number of specialized poultry farms will increase in the state. But for a time yet, poultry should remain a part of the general farm business. The farm flock should be large enough to justify spending some time on it to work out a good program.



Michigan Needs 70,000 Member Families in 1956!

Will you invite a farm family to join the Farm Bureau—perhaps for the same reasons you did? Most people become members because someone invited them. We need 4,047 more members to reach 70,000.

Use this Application for Membership

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership in the County Farm Bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau, and the American Farm Bureau, and agree to pay the annual membership dues of \$10.00.

It is agreed that 40 cents of this sum shall be for a year's subscription to the Michigan Farm News; that \$1.00 is to be applied as my annual dues to the American Farm Bureau Federation of which 25 cents is for a year's subscription to the Nation's Agriculture.

(Check one)

Have you ever been a member of Farm Bureau? New Renewal Transfer
NAME (print) Applicant

Post Office RFD

Road Address

Township

SIGN HERE

RECEIPT FOR DUES

RECEIVED \$10.00 in payment of County Farm Bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau dues for 1956 from this applicant:

NAME
ADDRESS
Signed
Address Membership Worker

RECEIPT FOR DUES

RECEIVED \$10.00 in payment of County Farm Bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau dues for 1956 from this applicant:

NAME
ADDRESS
Signed
Address Membership Worker

Complete the application and mail it to your County Farm Bureau Secretary, together with the new member's dues for 1956. Fill in BOTH of the Receipts for Dues and give him one of them. See article on Page 2, Who is Eligible for Farm Bureau Membership. See page 2 for address of your County Farm Bureau Secretary. Thank you for your help.

Membership Department - Michigan Farm Bureau



This One-Purpose Grease Does It

Unico B-550 Grease has all the qualities of a one-purpose grease for use around the farm.

It is not necessary to have several greases and grease guns to take care of wheel bearings, universal joints, water pumps and chassis. Unico B-550 Grease lubricates all of them.

Durable and water resistant. Stays put and won't drip. No frozen shackles if Unico B-550 Grease is used regularly.

Buy from your Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Distributor, or County Distribution Agent.

...Thanks! to dependable FARM BUREAU PORKMAKER



Order from YOUR FARM BUREAU DEALER



Building a Pole Barn?

BE SURE TO USE PRESSURE-CREOSOTED POLES!

YOU'LL SAVE MONEY, time and labor building a pole barn . . . but the real economy comes only if you use poles which have been properly pressure treated.

Your Farm Bureau dealer has some interesting facts about this new method of farm building construction. See him soon. He also has a complete file of building plans that make the job easier.

See Your FARM BUREAU DEALER
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc., LANSING, MICH.

The Problems of School Finance Are Growing

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for April

Background Material for Program in April by our 1543 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research, MFB

Our school situation is "in a fix." Or, we could as truly say that the people are "in a fix" over the school problems.

School financing problems are not simple. They require study. But they are worth your time because they affect not only your pocketbooks, but also the future of your children.

There are very many problems and viewpoints within this area. We can treat only with a few here. Since your own district may be affected by one problem more than another, your Community Farm Bureau may want to discuss the topic from its own angle. Some of the facts, however, affect every school and every family in this country. Here are some facts to help provide a basis for your discussion:

1—How the Birth Rate Has Affected the School Problem:

A. The number of babies born in Michigan has skyrocketed. 1933 — 80,482; 1947 — 160,275; 1954 — 193,000 births.

B. Between 1931 and 1953 the number of youths remaining in school through the 12th grade has nearly doubled.

C. The 1946 school census was 1,398,098 in Michigan. The estimated school census for 1956 is 1,912,000. This is an increase of 37%.

D. School enrollment is expected to rise more in the next 10 years than it has in the last 50 years.

2—The School Building and Teacher Situation:

A. 41.8% of Michigan's school buildings were built before 1900. 83.7% were built before 1930.

B. 54.7% of our classrooms are overcrowded. According to the Michigan Department of Public Instruction, 15.6% of our classrooms are obsolete or makeshift rooms.

C. The severe shortage of buildings today is partly a result of the slowdown in construction during the recession of the 1930's and the materials shortages of World War II.

D. Beginning with 1952-53 the public schools of Michigan have spent more than \$100 million annually for school construction. To meet the increasing pupil attendance this same pace must be maintained through 1959, at least.

E. The average assessment for school construction and maintenance in Michigan is about 12 mills.

F. The shortage of teachers is greater in rural areas than in cities.

G. There are about 51,000 teachers in Michigan. 5500 are teaching on "special certificates" rather than permanent ones.

H. The Department of Public Instruction estimates that enough trained teachers will be available to meet future needs if training facilities are provided to prepare them. 10% more teachers will be available in 1957.

I. State law now permits school districts to borrow from the state from funds raised by the sale of state bonds for school construction. A borrowing district must, however, have a school debt that exceeds, or promises to exceed a local tax rate of 13 mills on the state equalized formula. This provision was approved by a vote of the people.

3—Problems in Taxing Property for School Construction: In

a good sign of ability to pay in these days of high industrial wages. And such taxes are not directly related to the degree of use being made of the schools by the taxpayers. Such problems are growing in Michigan.

Where to Turn for Money for the Schools? The problem of equalizing tax loads at a local level is truly a tough one. A really fair source of revenue for school support is sometimes hard to find.

Certainly we ought to equalize the tax burden among the people of a district in the fairest way possible. Sometimes this has not been done. An assessor may pay more attention, for example, to where "the votes are concentrated" than to the true property value differences within his district.

Practices like this help to bring the "crackdowns" like those we have had in the state equalization formula laws and newly proposed legislative controls.

Different types of new state-collected taxes have been proposed as a substitute for property taxes. None of them are free of problems. And they would bring an increase of state, rather than local, control. There have been suggestions for:

- State income taxes—both personal and corporation.
- Increases in the sales tax. Such increases are unlikely. In 1953 the Conlin Amendment to the constitution set the limit of 3% on the sales tax. Organized labor is against any increase in this tax.
- Some have even suggested a single state school district for Michigan which could levy taxes upon property for school purposes. This would certainly put a crimp in local control.
- A resolution passed by the Michigan Farm Bureau delegates last November states:

"We recognize that in many communities the need for additional school facilities is so great that general property tax can no longer bear the tax burden. A wide variation exists in the bonded indebtedness of school districts throughout the state.

"Some way must be found to spread the cost of erecting these facilities more uniformly among the taxpayers of the state according to their ability to pay. We believe that the state should provide additional aid to districts having a bonded indebtedness of 10 mills or more and suggest an increase in the intangible tax as a possible source of revenue."

(e) Some have asked for additional taxes on industries to be distributed according to demonstrated school needs on some type of formula.

And then we have:

4—The Idea of Federal Aid to Education. Here are some facts:

A. In recent years the number of bills in Congress to establish Federal aid for school construction has outnumbered the bills asking for school programs. Bills have asked for up to \$5 billion to be put to this purpose.

B. This is in spite of the fact that the per capita income among the less wealthy has doubled.

C. Federal tax collections have increased from 25% of all taxes collected to 75%.

D. The Federal debt has reached a point where it is eight times larger than the combined state and local debt.

E. House Bill 7535, now before Congress, aims at providing Federal funds for school building purposes. These funds would be allocated to the states. The states would have to match them to get their share.

The Federal government would purchase school funds where they failed to sell on the open market at reasonable prices. States would distribute the funds under their own plan and according to need at the local level.

Arguments for Federal Aid to Education. (From the Report of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations—1955):

- All citizens in a democracy should receive an adequate opportunity for education to be able to take part in public affairs and advance the sound basis of self-government.
- Some areas are unable to provide funds for the program that will make such an education possible. The Federal government can help to develop proper schools in such cases.
- Areas needing aid may change by shifts of population.
- We may be put at a disadvantage in national defense if we do not educate youth properly in science and national spirit.
- States differ widely in their ability to support adequate schools. Some balance should be introduced by the Federal government.
- All schools need an adequate fund in order to attract good teachers to the profession. Poor salaries in some states prevent the hiring of good teachers.

This is FARM BUREAU

1. Farm Bureau is an organization of, for and by farm families, united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating programs to effect for farmers—through a strong, militant, well-informed membership—Economic Equality, Educational Opportunity, and Social Advancement, and thereby promote the national security.

2. The Farm Bureau is national in scope, non-partisan, nonsectarian, and nonsecret in character. It is representative of the entire farm population, is self-financed, and acts as a clearing house for agriculture and as a spokesman for a free, independent, and unfettered organization of farmers.

3. Farm Bureau is a free, independent, voluntary, non-governmental organization of farm families. Its purpose is to provide a voice for agriculture in America.

7. The lag in school construction caused by the war put local schools far behind in building needs. Many areas need Federal aid to catch up to these needs.

Arguments Against Federal Aid to Education. (From the same report as above):

1. The U. S. Constitution establishes state and local responsibility for education. Local control can be maintained only by keeping the support of the schools at the local level. Education should not be made a political football. The government could come to dictate what the child is permitted to learn.

2. Through support of the schools at the local level they have been vastly expanded and improved over the last 50 years. This trend can continue.

3. Low-income states have shown marked progress in educational support for the past 20 years. Teachers' salaries have risen in these areas.

4. Some states are asking for financial support that are obviously able to support their schools on the basis of wealth and production. Often they are in a better financial position than the Federal Government.

5. Whatever the Federal government gives out, it must take away from the citizens. It has no other source of income. If the Federal government took less, the states could support their own educational programs.

In 1953, the Federal government collected \$70 billion in taxes, or 27% of all individual incomes. Adjustments to low-in-

come states to leave them more money would leave control over this money to the states. This would leave policy control to the state and local school administration.

Questions and Suggestions

Invite your county supervisor, your school superintendent or your state senator or representative to your meeting to discuss these problems with you.

- Other than property taxation, what sources of revenue could be used for the financing of school construction?
- What will be required in terms of new school construction in your district within the next ten years? How will it be financed?
- To what degree would you turn to the Federal government



Would this put *You* under the FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAW?

It certainly would! Although a little known fact—Michigan's Financial Responsibility Law makes it clear that driving a tractor or other mechanized equipment on the highway exposes you to the same risk involved in driving your car.

OF COURSE, you are aware of the risk in driving a car—and you carry automobile insurance—because one costly claim could take your entire farm... your life savings... even your future earnings.

BUT WHAT ABOUT a costly claim as a result of a highway tractor accident? Are you carrying this risk yourself? If you are—see your Farm Bureau Insurance agent about Farm Bureau Farm Liability protection. This broad coverage will provide you with complete liability protection both ON and OFF the farm.

LET THIS EXCLUSIVE Farm Bureau "HOME GUARD" contract protect your farm, your savings, and your future earnings. Your Farm Bureau agent will be happy to give you all the facts. See him today!

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
4000 N. GRAND RIVER AVENUE
LANSING, MICHIGAN

There's a Farm Bureau insurance representative nearby to serve you. Ask any Farm Bureau office how to reach him for information about life, auto, fire and farm liability protection, or about the FIP Protected Savings Plan.

Pole Type Building is Gaining in Popularity

The pole type barn is rapidly becoming a feature of the Michigan rural landscape. Farmers have found barns and other buildings of this type easy to construct, economical and long-lasting.

Plans are available to aid farmers in the construction of barns, sheds, feeding racks, and other shelters and equipment.

Farm Bureau Services, the agricultural engineering department of Michigan State University, and the research staffs of several material suppliers have worked up plans to assure farmers sturdy, well-designed buildings.

These plans incorporate the latest research findings and the best available information on the arrangement and construction of such buildings and equipment.

Many of the structures, for which plans are available, can be built or covered with a variety of material. Choice may depend on the availability and prices as well as the skill of local builders.

In many instances home-grown timbers may also be used in the form of poles, logs, or sawed lumber. Any wood in contact with the ground should be treated with preservative to give long life.

Poles that are set in the ground should preferably be pressure-treated with such preservatives as creosote or Penta (pentachlorophenol).

For financial aid for school construction? Should such action be necessary?

Pressure-treated poles and lumber are available through Farm Bureau Services' dealers in Michigan who can also supply the many varieties of materials for roofs and siding.

Working drawings for the construction of the many types of buildings are also available through local Farm Bureau dealers or may be obtained by writing Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Lansing, Michigan; or through the Agricultural Engineering Extension Dept. of Michigan State University.

Not Meyer Zoysia

This may shatter your dreams about a lawn you can plant and forget. Meyer Zoysia or the new Emerald Zoysia just don't make that kind of lawn in this state, say Michigan State University grass specialists. The climate of most of Michigan doesn't fit them.

In seven years of tests at East Lansing, Meyer Zoysia didn't begin to green up until May 15 or June 1. Then it went off color with the first frost.

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 University February 4, 1919.

VERTICAL LIFT PUMPS

LANG FARM VERTICAL LIFT PUMPS are high capacity and low cost. They are specifically developed for drainage and irrigation purposes. Available in many sizes. May be driven by farm tractor or stationary motor. Write or telephone for free information.

Valley Welding and Boiler Company
Telephone 4543
27th & Water Sts. Bay City, Michigan

ANNOUNCING! Money saving values during Farm Bureau's Annual Spring Steel Sale!

April 16 to May 12



BARBED WIRE



"MOTTO" 4 pt. \$6.85 per roll
HEAVY 4 pt. \$8.49 per roll

With carload purchasing your Farm Bureau dealer can make these foreign-made barbs available at such low prices. They meet domestic barb specifications. Your Farm Bureau dealer is offering many other steel items for farm use. All items are first quality. You won't be able to duplicate the prices anywhere. See your Farm Bureau dealer between April 16 and May 12 and save... SAVE!

OTHER ITEMS SPECIALLY PRICED:

- UNICO FIELD FENCE.
- Studded "T" Fence Posts.
- GALVANIZED STEEL SHEETS.
- Unico Electric Fence Posts.
- Unico Smooth Roll Roofing.

SEE YOUR FARM BUREAU DEALER and SAVE MONEY!

*Prices applicable to most Farm Bureau Steel Dealers in Michigan

Discussion Topics

March Through August, 1956

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

- Apr. How Should Schools and School Construction Be Financed?
- May Has the Small Farm a Profitable Future?
- Jun. Making Citizenship Work at Home.
- July Who is the Middleman — What is His Take of the Consumer's Dollar?
- Aug. Farmer's Role in Selling Michigan Farm Products in Michigan.

Be sure to read your discussion article in the Michigan Farm News. Attend your Community Farm Bureau meetings. Have your voice in Farm Bureau affairs.