

Michigan Farm News

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EDITORIAL

Their Position on Nine Issues

CLARK L. BRODY

Counsel for Public Affairs for Michigan Farm Bureau

The replies made by Senator Charles E. Potter and Lieutenant Governor Philip A. Hart to a Michigan Farm Bureau questionnaire are published in this edition.

This is done to enable 71,454 members of Farm Bureau to consider the views of candidates for the United States Senate in relation to some policies adopted by the membership of this organization.

The questions were stated in a manner that expresses Farm Bureau policy on nine major issues.

The election of candidates who believe in the objectives of the Farm Bureau is essential to the accomplishment of our legislative program.

Each member of Farm Bureau is urged to study the replies made by each of the candidates for United States Senator, and to appraise their attitudes toward policies favored by the Farm Bureau.

It is the responsibility of every citizen to inform himself on the issues and how the candidates stand on them.

Vote your convictions November 4. Your name on the registration list makes no contribution to good government unless you exercise the great privilege of voting on election day.

President Charles B. Shuman of the American Farm Bureau Federation said: "Citizens who fail to vote and who are complacent about qualifications of candidates for public office represent a threat to America's freedom."

We're Organized for Business

The expiration of the corporate charter for Farm Bureau Services, Inc., in 1959 will mark 40 years of Farm Bureau effort in cooperative purchasing and marketing.

When Farm Bureau Services has its annual meeting of stockholders at Michigan State University November 25, the stockholders will act upon a resolution to extend the corporate charter another 30 years.

"It's Organized for Business" was the slogan for the Michigan Farm Bureau's first membership campaign in 1919.

There was great need for the Farm Bureau Purchasing Department established that year to help the farmer improve the quality of farm supplies.

I recall how farmers were being exploited in some instances as to price, grade, and quality following World War I.

Clover and alfalfa seeds infested with harmful weed seeds, and clover and alfalfa seeds of southern origin and sure to winter-kill were some of the difficulties.

Some mixed dairy feeds had an excessive amount of oat hulls and other fibrous mill by-products.

Fertilizers of low plant food content were common. There was complaint about the quality and availability of plant food in some instances. Some exorbitant profits were taken.

It was through the Farm Bureau, in cooperation with the Michigan Agricultural College, that farmers were assured of northern origin clover and alfalfa seeds. They were packed in sealed bags as they are today, and the analysis tag carried a guarantee.

Open formula feeds were manufactured under Farm Bureau inspection. The ingredients were listed pound for pound on the feed tag. This was done first by the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Farm Bureau pioneered the large scale manufacture of high analysis fertilizers.

Farm Bureau Services and neighboring state Farm Bureau supply services established a co-operative oil blending plant in the early 1930's at Indianapolis.

Farmers' petroleum demands in Michigan have developed our Farmers Petroleum Co-operative, Inc. to a volume of \$6,000,000 last year.

The growth of the business made it desirable

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Avalon Bay at Catalina Island, California

MFB Annual Meeting At MSU Nov. 11-12

All members of Farm Bureau are invited to attend the 39th annual meeting at Michigan State University at the Auditorium, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 11 and 12.

They are invited also to attend these pre-convention meetings at Michigan State University:

Nov. 8—Young People of Farm Bureau, 23rd annual meeting, at Music Auditorium.

Nov. 10—Women of Farm Bureau, 14th annual meeting, at Auditorium.

Nov. 10—Commodity Conferences for MFB State Dairy, Fruit, Livestock, Poultry, and Vegetable Committees, at Union Memorial Building, MSU.

In this article we shall present a summary of the programs for these meetings.

Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting will bring together Nov. 11 at 10 a.m. 718 voting delegates from 70 County Farm Bureaus. Each represents 100 families in Farm Bureau. Registration of delegates at 9 a.m. The program for the two day session:

- 1—President's Address by Ward G. Hodge.
- 2—Report by J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary of the Michigan Farm Bureau and its service companies.
- 3—Report of State Resolutions Committee.
- 4—Election of Directors.
- 5—Consideration of any recommendations from the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and other new business.

Herbert W. Voorhees, president of the New Jersey Farm Bureau, will speak at the evening program, November 11.

Resolutions adopted on state and local affairs will be the Michigan Farm Bureau's program in the state for 1959. Resolutions on national affairs will be recommended to the American Farm Bureau convention at its convention at Boston December 7 to 11.

The delegates will elect eight of a Board of Directors of 16 members. Directors are elected for two year terms. The board elects its president and vice-president after each annual meeting.

Young People

November 8—Saturday

23rd annual meeting 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Music Auditorium. 6:00 p.m. Annual Banquet. Ball-Union Memorial Bldg., J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary of Michigan Farm Bureau will speak. 9:00 p.m. Annual party. Ball-room.

Women's Meeting

Nov. 10—Monday Morning

14th annual meeting, MSU. 10 a.m. at Auditorium, MSU.

VOTE NO

November 4 on proposal for a Constitutional Convention.

Morning program includes: Report of State Chairman—Mrs. Alex Kennedy. Report of State Coordinator—Mrs. Marjorie Karker. Address—Mrs. Litta K. Roberson, Director of Women's Activities, Ohio Farm Bureau.

(Continued on Page 2)

Harold M. Lambert Studios

Michigan Farm Bureau Invites

Senate Candidates To State Positions

*On Several Issues on Which Members Of Michigan Farm Bureau Have Stated Their Position

United States Senator Charles E. Potter (Republican) and Lieutenant Governor Philip A. Hart (Democrat), candidates for the United States Senate at the election November 4, have been invited by the Michigan Farm Bureau to state their positions on nine questions of public policy.

The questions are of interest to the Michigan Farm Bureau membership of 71,454 farm families. The questions are drawn from resolutions of policy adopted by the Farm Bureau membership at annual meetings.

Hiram Moore Was 100 Years Ahead

Hiram Moore was 100 years ahead of his time when he built and patented his first combine harvester at Climax, Michigan, in 1838.

According to the inscription made on the bronze plaque erected just north of Climax in Kalamazoo County, he cut, threshed, separated, cleaned, and bagged 1,100 bushels of wheat from 30 acres in one day.

The machine cut a 15-foot swath and was pulled by 20 horses. Two teams and wagons hauled the grain to the log granary.

Moore built a later model which was shipped to California in 1853 where it harvested 600 acres in one season. The machine caught fire from an overheated bearing and burned in the field in 1856.

The patent rights expired after 14 years and the machine was never produced commercially. Thus Michigan and U. S. farmers were doomed to the task of binding, shocking, and threshing their grains for another 100 years. — Michigan Elevator Exchange, Grain and Elevator Bulletin.

November 4

An Important Date for You

STANLEY M. POWELL
Legislative Counsel, MFB

Whether you are thinking of your own personal interests, or are activated by the highest patriotic motives, you cannot afford not to vote at the Tuesday, November 4, general election.

We shall elect many of our most important public officials, including those who will be making laws for us at Lansing and at Washington, as well as most of those in administrative positions.

These officeholders will have much to do with establishing our taxes and the conditions under which we will live and try to do business in the years that lie ahead.

We shall vote on a special ballot which will determine whether or not we should have a Constitutional Convention in Michigan to rewrite our State Constitution. Michigan farmers have a big stake in the outcome of this particular ballot.

The various groups frantically campaigning for a "Yes" vote have many ideas up their sleeves which don't set well with rural Michigan.

In some communities, these promoters have resorted to using school children to take their propaganda back to the homes in an effort to build up sentiment for a Yes vote.

Lack of interest in current issues, and the declining participation of voters in general elections, is one of the most depressing trends in our State and

(Continued on Page 2)



SENATOR POTTER

Q. Do you favor legislation to hold state laws valid when not in direct and definite conflict with federal law?

A. YES.

Q. Do you favor local and state support of schools and oppose federal aid to education?

A. I STRONGLY FAVOR local and state support and controls of our schools.

Federal assistance under existing law is granted to those communities burdened with substantial increases in school attendance because of defense and other federal activities, and serious consideration should be extended to those communities where it is clearly demonstrated that responsible constituted authorities are unable financially to provide adequate education facilities.

Q. Do you oppose the establishment of a direct payment plan of government subsidies for mineral producers?

A. YES, EXCEPT with respect to critical defense minerals subject to such foreign competition as would close our domestic mines and force skilled miners into other occupations, thereby losing our domestic sources for such minerals in time of national emergency.

Q. Do you believe that government price support programs for agriculture should reflect present-day markets and conditions?

(Continued on Page 3)



LIEUT. GOVERNOR HART

Q. Do you favor legislation to hold state laws valid when not in direct and definite conflict with federal law?

A. THE LEGISLATION in question would disturb the very delicate balance of federal-state relationships painstakingly developed over the 100 odd years of our nation's history. The confusion resulting defies the imagination of the best Constitutional lawyers.

As a lawyer and as a citizen, I do not like to see the Supreme Court jumped by those in the grandstand who may disagree with some of its decisions. As a lawyer and as a Senator I would oppose legislation of this blanket sort.

Q. Do you favor local and state support of schools and oppose expanded federal aid to education?

A. MOST CERTAINLY I favor increased local and state support of education, and on many occasions have publicly urged the Michigan Legislature to more adequately support Michigan schools.

Because of the urgent nature of America's tremendous need for classroom space, however, and the grave danger that Soviet Russia may pass us by in the vitally important educational race, I favor federal aid to public school construction.

The vocational agriculture and agricultural extension program have demonstrated, I believe, that federal aid does not have to mean federal control. Proper local con-

(Continued on Page 3)

Will Speak at Farm Bureau Annual Meetings



MRS. LITTA K. ROBERSON
Ohio Farm Bureau

MFB Women's Annual Meeting
Nov. 10 - Morning



ERVIN L. PETERSON
Ass't Sec'y of Agriculture

Women's & Commodity Groups
Nov. 10 - Afternoon



DR. CLIFTON GANUS
Harding College, Arkansas

Women's & Commodity Groups
Nov. 10 - Afternoon



WHEELER McMILLEN
Farm Journal

Commodity Conference Dinner
Nov. 10 - Evening



HERBERT W. VOORHEES
New Jersey Farm Bureau

MFB Annual Meeting
Nov. 11 - Evening



PURPOSE OF FARM BUREAU

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

President - W. G. Hedge, Snover
V.-Pres. - W. W. Wightman, Fenntville
Exec. Sec'y - J. F. Yaeger, Lansing

DIRECTORS BY DISTRICTS
1-Max K. Hood, Paw Paw, R-1
2-Blake Knirk, Quincy, R-1
3-Alton F. Rush, Lake Orion, R-1

Established January 12, 1923.
Entered as second class matter January 12, 1923, at the postoffice at Charlotte, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879.



Grace, at Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving was a big affair at Grangers' place this year. The young folks and their families came to share the Granger cheer.

Small Chris is first. (He missed his turn when last we held assembly) His tiny voice is scarcely heard, so reverent yet so trembly; Then Keith and Kathy sweetly say in cadences demure



Dairy Leader Dies

FRED D. WALKER, 56, secretary-manager of the Dairyland Cooperative Creamery Company of Carson City, died of a heart attack September 29 at Lansing where he was attending a meeting.

Mr. Walker is survived by Mrs. Walker, a son, Lieutenant Duane Walker of the U. S. Air Force, and daughter, Mrs. Betty Snyder of Norfolk, Virginia.

Dairyland Manager

GIL VAUGHAN is the new secretary-manager of Dairyland Cooperative Creamery Company at Carson City. Mr. Vaughn succeeds Fred Walker who was manager for 32 of the firm's 33 year history, and until his sudden death September 29.

Today in Farm Bureau

JERRY CORDREY, Coordinator of Organization
Membership for the American Farm Bureau Federation stands at 1,353,942 or 83.7% of the 1958 goal which is 1,623,002.

In Michigan, we have started receiving renewals and new members for 1959 at a very rapid pace. Already, we have received 7,939 members in the state office. This is about 3,000 ahead of last year at this time.

Plans for the 1959 Drive are shaping up very well. Roll Call Managers are selected. Area men, Trainers, and Captains are either selected or being selected.

The Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives annual meeting was held at Kellogg Center on October 27 and 28. The theme of this year's meeting was "Cooperation Among Cooperatives."

District Training Meetings are being held for Women's Committee officers. During October, November, and December, District 4, 7, 9, and 11 meetings have been held.

The Women's Committee Fall District Meetings have just been completed. As is typical of the Women's Committee activity, there was excellent attendance at these meetings with over 1,400 taking part.

County Farm Bureau Annual Meetings were held during October. Reports of these have been encouraging. Attendance seems to be better than in the past.

Community Group Officers Training Meetings are being planned by several counties in November. These are for the purpose of acquainting new officers with their duties so as to have better group meetings.

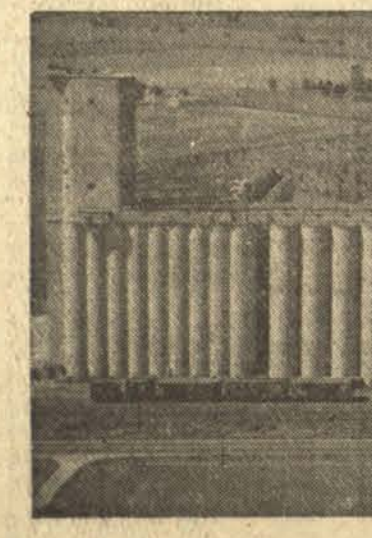
New Officers have been elected by Community Groups, and we presently have groups reorganized with their new set-up sheets.

November is a big month for Michigan Farm Bureau and its affiliates.

November 8 is the Farm Bureau Young People's 23rd Annual Meeting. Reports of officers and committees will be heard, Talent and Speech Contests will be conducted, District and State Officers will be elected.

Michigan Elevator Exchange Expands Marketing Service

"We are in a period of agricultural revolution.
Farmers of America are growing the largest total crop in history on the smallest acreage in 40 years.



Michigan Elevator Exchange Grain Terminal
This is our sales agent for all Michigan varieties of dry edible beans.

one more step and export their grain to foreign countries, and build a reputation for quality merchandise in American surplus crops.

The Exchange reported patronage refunds of \$229,342 on the business. The refunds are payable to member elevators.

President Mark Westbrook made the announcement for the board of directors.
Mr. Vaughn came to Dairyland in 1952 as sales manager and will combine the duties of secretary-manager and sales manager.

POULTRY meeting - Room 33, Union Memorial Bldg. 3rd Floor. Program includes these discussions:
"The Program of the Poultry and Egg National Board"-Ken Heideman, Director of Finance and Public Relations for the Board.

VEGETABLE meeting - Room 35, Union Memorial Bldg. 3rd Floor. Program includes these discussions:
"Possibilities for Vegetable Bargaining Cooperatives in Michigan" - Joe Vandemark, Ass't Director, Commodity Division, American Farm Bureau.

Vote in Corn Referendum November 25
Corn growers, including share-crop landlords and wives, in Michigan's 37 commercial corn counties should plan to vote in the corn referendum to be held Nov. 25.

LIVESTOCK meeting - Room 32, Union Memorial Bldg. 3rd Floor. Program includes these discussions:
"Implications of Integration" - Dr. Robert Kramer, Professor of Agr'l Economics, MSU.

EVERYBODY BENEFITS
Trucks are the only commercial vehicles which serve all of Michigan - bringing merchandise and materials from every part of the world to every Michigan household, farm and business concern.

Michigan Trucking Association
Fort Shelby Hotel • Detroit

Nov. 4 Important Date for You
(Continued from Page 1)
In 1896, 83% of this Nation's voters went to the polls. In 1916, that percentage had dropped to 72, and in 1936, to 57. In recent elections only slightly more than half of the voters have exercised their right to cast ballots.

Let us give of our time, energy and in fluence freely to stimulate our neighbors and those in our localities to cast an intelligent ballot at the November 4 election. Nothing that we may do at home or elsewhere would be as important as discharging this basic responsibility of good citizenship.

Remember the special ballot about the Constitutional Convention issue. The position of the Michigan Farm Bureau is that the vote should be "NO."

Macomb Farm-City Week Program
Macomb County Farm Bureau is again cooperating with business and labor groups and service clubs in an early recognition of Farm-City Week October 19-25.

Bills on Use of Water
Two drafts of proposed water legislation were received by the State-Wide Water Conference held at the Civic Center in Lansing last week.

Milton Adams, executive secretary of the Michigan Water Resources Commission, reviewed House Bill 559 which was introduced in the 1958 session of the Legislature.

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Challenge of Integration to Farm Operations

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for November

Background Material for Program in November by Our 1683 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

Changes in agriculture today happen so fast that it would make your head swim. Problems pop up today—and by the time you get them into focus, new ones appear on the horizon.

This makes it vital that farmers do more than seek temporary solutions to today's problems. If the farmer is to stay in business in 1965 he must not settle his case with "quick cure" approaches that will merely fit 1958.

What Changes Are Taking Place? By 1900 the mass production assembly line began sweeping American industry. Corporations began to tie together management of operations all the way from the raw product to the customer sales room. In other words, INTEGRATION of production and marketing became the rule in industry.

Such unified management procedures are only now beginning to find their way into agriculture—more than a half-century later. Farms have been independent units. Each farm family does its own management and markets the products as opportunity provides.

Conditions in society are forcing a new system onto grocery stores. The independent, family operated grocery store has practically disappeared. Growth of large population centers has brought chain stores. These are directed under a unified, highly-trained and expert management staff.

Chain stores demand three things in food products: (1) Uniform high quality. (2) A constant and reliable flow of the products from producers. (3) A product at a competitive price.

Some chain stores began setting up their own "integrated" farm production programs. They began producing poultry, eggs, and dairy products. In such cases they hold a definite advantage over the independent farmer. They can hire expert management, buy feeds and supplies in wholesale lots and even build hatcheries and processing plants. They can forget the on-the-farm profit. They get their pay-off over the store counter.

Feed Manufacturers Get in the Game

Many feed companies have jumped on the "integration" bandwagon. Some packing companies and food processing companies are taking up the approach. The trend is growing. And it means that competition for the independent farmer for

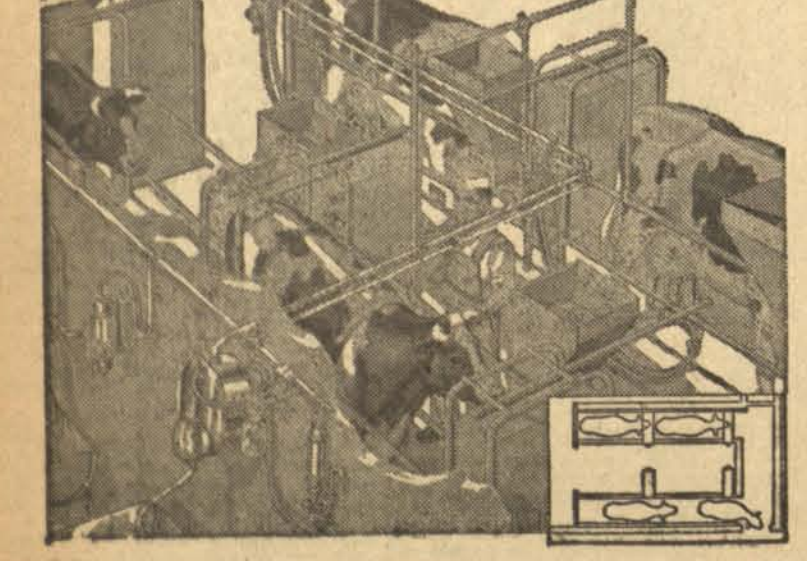
How Does the System Work?

Any company might decide to operate an "integrated" farm for the independent farmer for

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APPLIANCE and DAIRY DEP'T
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.
Lansing, Michigan

companies and broiler production. They have gone a long way in this direction. About 95% of America's broiler business is now integrated. Production has moved to eastern and southern states.

Feed companies own mills. They can turn out feeds at cost. They may own hatcheries, too. They draft contracts with farmers to raise the broilers. They supply the chicks, so they own the flock. They provide litter, medicines, sprays, veterinary services, and expert supervision for the farmer. They find the market for the birds and see to the processing.

The farmer supplies the buildings, the equipment and the labor. If credit is needed to get the buildings and equipment, the companies often provide it. The farmer can pay back from his earnings.

Types of Contracts

Company contracts with farmers differ. Sometimes there is a flat rate per bird, or per 1,000 birds (or per head of livestock marketed). Here, the company assumes all the risks and takes the gains or losses of the operation.

The contract may provide that the earnings are shared between the company and the farmer. Here the farmer would share losses as well as gains.

With eggs, there is sometimes an "open contract." The company in this case furnishes chicks, feeds and supplies. When the pullets reach the laying stage, the farmer pays back at a set rate per dozen until costs are paid off.

Then the farmer owns the flock. He may be guaranteed a minimum price for top quality eggs—or a certain bonus above the current market prices. The "open contract" may work with other products, too.

Sectional Competition

With "integration" of farm production booming in the country, various areas are trying to get control of the markets. Georgia recently declared its intention of becoming "the egg basket of the U.S." Other states are fighting this challenge.

Southern states are stepping up integrated production of hogs. Northern hog raisers are talking about how to keep the hog market that they have dominated in the past.

Integrated beef production programs are growing in western states. Can midwest beef producers find a way to compete with this program in the beef market? It will take serious planning and support to do it.

No area of America is more than 24 hours from any market in these days of rapid transportation.

Some Advantages For Farmers

1. Credit. Where a farmer lacks funds to get set for volume, the company often provides them. Young farmers getting established find this a help. It can make the deal look pretty attractive.
2. Under some contracts the farmer is guaranteed a definite income without the business risks. The company assumes the risks.
3. Under other contracts, the guarantee of a firm market price on quality products, or a bonus above prices may look pretty good.
4. The farmer does not have to worry about a market. The company does this and even picks up the products at the farm.
5. Supplies, veterinary services and expert counselling are given by the company. Or supply costs are lowered through purchases in wholesale lots.
6. If bargaining is necessary, the company can provide trained bargaining experts. With control of large supplies a price advantage is possible.
7. Control of quality helps to assure a more favorable market price for the products.

Disadvantages To Consider

1. The farmer may lose management control over his farm completely. He may become just an agent of the company. In his dependent position he could lose the skills needed to manage his own future operations.
2. Independent farms could find it so hard to keep pace with these integrated systems as to be forced out of farming. If farmers had to change occupations very rapidly it could become a serious problem. Past changes have always been gradual.
3. If farmers sought to set up their own "integrated" programs, it might require the development of special credit programs for farmers. Long-term and expanded credit would be necessary.
4. Increased efficiency would mean increased product production. It might outstrip market demands. If so, the integrated farms would be forced to accept production and marketing quotas. And bargaining would become less effective as the supplies of the product mounted.
5. Some companies might try "pricing agreements" to offset the problem in 4, above. But such action would run afoul of anti-trust laws. So the control of production might become a necessity in the program.
6. It would be hard for even a good farmer to stay independent in the face of this kind of competition for the market.

Can Farmers Integrate?

Yes. Farmers have! Farmer cooperatives are forms of integration. The California Citrus Growers Cooperative (Sunkist) has been integrated for 50 years. But any such program has to be big, soundly financed, and expertly managed!

Competition will require "super-cooperatives" if the job is to be done.

The kind of competition that is developing cannot be matched with "peanuts."

Standards for Integrated Co-ops

Standards required of the future "integrated" farmer cooperative will be:

1. Sound and sufficient financing—equal to or better than competing companies.
2. Expert management, equaling or improving on the competing companies.
3. Products of quality equaling or bettering competition.
4. Control of enough of the product to give a strong price bargaining position in the market. This cannot be maintained if farmers desert their cooperative and its contracts as they sometimes have in the past for a temporary price advantage from competition.

Independent farm operators can hold or keep their own management programs in the future. But it appears that group action will be required to pool the resources and the products of such farmers under a well-managed system. This system could provide the advantages through cooperation that are being provided through private companies.

A panel at the American Feed Manufacturers Association annual meeting said that "if farmers do not integrate their own



Mackinac-Luce First to Win Over-Goal Brown Jug

FB Groups Help Send Bulls to Greece

production and marketing systems through cooperatives, private business concerns will do it. If neither does, the government will do it."

Questions

1. Who—in Michigan—should take the initiative to assure that "integrating" programs are to the best interests of farmers?
2. What kind of programs will serve to protect the family-farm farms in the future?
3. What steps can the farmers take to meet the competition of "integrated programs" and still keep the management control over his own farming program?

The man found big enough to shoulder responsibility will be in demand.

Community Farm Bureaus have been making contributions to CROP to send 20 Jersey bulls to farmers of northern Greece to improve native dairy stock and milk production.

The bulls have been sent from Michigan, even though there was not enough money on hand to pay for them. Contributions may be sent to Christian Rural Overseas Program, 205 West Saginaw Street, Lansing.

CROP has acknowledged contributions from these Community Farm Bureaus: Pinhook, Ionia county; Pioneer, Alpena; Hilltop, Westford; Plank Road, Lanawee; Den Area, Genesee; Gagetown, Tuscola; Bean Creek Valley, Lanawee; First Community, Montcalm;

UPPER PENINSULA County Farm Bureaus have a brown jug award for the first county over its membership goal.

Mackinac-Luce County Farm Bureau is the first over goal for 1959. Arthur W. Edwards of Engadine (left), Roll Call Manager, is shown receiving the "Over Membership Goal" jug from Hugo Kivi, regional membership representative, at the Mackinac-Luce annual meeting at Engadine the evening of October 14.

Take things as they come—the past is gone, tomorrow is an uncertainty, and today is no sure thing.

Miller, Ottawa; Reeman, Newaygo; Radish Toppers, Macomb; Tri-Township, Washtenaw; Mead, Macomb; Plainfield, Livingston; Barton City, Alcona; Lin-

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The above protection is just one example of several extra coverages provided by Farm Bureau's Blanket Policy for farm personal property. The Blanket Fire Policy is much more than fire and extended coverage protection. It provides protection against many other common farm perils. For complete details on Farm Bureau's Fire Blanket Policy for farm personal property, mail the coupon below or see your local Farm Bureau Insurance Agent.

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