Last Thursday morning I sat down at my desk to look over my mail as usual. The first thing to catch my eye was a letter from my old friend, Ezra T. Benson.

After expressing his regret at not being able to attend our recent meeting, Benson plunged into the problem nearest his heart, —the ever growing and apparently unrelvable problem of surplus crops.

I realized that I had not been following the development of national affairs too closely of late. Dan Reed and I had worked together for some time on these matters, but as my retirement approached, I had left more and more of it in Dan’s capable hands.

On February 16, Senator Benson gave a comprehensive report before the Senate Agricultural committee. Ezra urged me to study his report carefully. He began by saying:

"Realistic price supports can be a valuable tool in helping orderly marketing. They should not be used to destroy markets and fill warehouses."

I had long agreed with that.

Senator Benson continued, "The law has required that the prices of 12 basic commodities out of some 258 produced in the U.S. be supported at not less than certain minimum levels."

This mandatory requirement with complex and ineffective acreage controls has been the basic factor in our farm surplus problems.

In the Commodity Credit Corporation investment, the storage of unsalable and unmarketable, and various products not price supported and controlled had growing markets. They have not built up stocks in warehouses, expensive to the government to store and expensive to the producers in the downward pressure on the markets.

This loose supported commodities, corn, cotton, and wheat, are 90% of our government-inventory of price support commodities, but they represent only 10% of the total farm cash income!

The Commodity Credit Corporation investment in commodities for which price support is mandatory — corn, cotton, wheat, rice, peanuts and tobacco — amounts to 80% of its total investment, and the annual cost of storage is 40% of its total income.

The total CCC investment in all commodities in inventory and under loan will approximate $9,100 million dollars as of July 1, 1959.

Payments by the CCC for storage, transportation, and interest on these surplus holdings are estimated at over $1 billion dollars for the current fiscal year.

Very little of this billion dollars goes to farmers.

In recent years we have become accustomed to seeing figures which represent huge sums of money, but I have not really understood the meaning of the enormous sums of money being swallowed in surplus and completely wasted since they are not curing the price for which they were raised.

This has been referred to as the "farm subsidy scandal," but it is in reality a national problem.

Here is where Farm Bureau comes in. It is true, Farm Bureau has always stood for reducing surpluses, but it includes the farmer, the situation is tailored for the development of all sorts of crack-pot ideas and plans.

Many of these are socialistic or worse, but they all tend to build up bureaucracy and lead to still more government control. There is great danger that some of these half-baked ideas might be adopted and a law that shows promise of resolving the problem.

Two measures are before Congress now, one sponsored by Senator Cullen of Georgia, and the other by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. Both are patterned after the legislation that Governor Connally of Texas has recommended. This plan also has a chance of passing. It might be in the interest of all of us to study these measures carefully.

Children's Sight Checked by Schools

The oversight of 50,000 Michigan school children was screened for eye trouble, especially strabismus, by first grade, tenth grade and junior high school students throughout the state, according to the Michigan Day-Book of Schools.

Each child was expected to the point of sight, far-sightedness, astigmatism, and correctible condition, and it was estimated that 50,000 students were examined in the three weeks over the first ten of February.

Fifteen students were added to the State Health Department for the primary students with severe visual impairments.

Nursing is about same size in Michigan.

Paint In 1959! FB Services Loads 3,866 Gallons of Unico Paints to Start Season

FB Services to Market Eggs

The formation of an Egg Marketing Division was announced March 26 by Maynard D. Brownlee, general manager of Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

The purpose of the egg marketing program will be to establish a market for high quality Michigan produced eggs. The eggs will be graded "fresh farmer quality" now as U.S.D.A. designation for higher quality eggs.

Headquarters for the operation will be at Jackson, Ottawa county, under the direction of Peter J. Sikkema, manager.

Membership in the program, slated to go into effect August 1 of this year, will be open to producers with 1,000 or more layers and the equipment to meet "Farm Fresh Quality" standards.

Initially, the program will be open only to producers in West Central Michigan.

The program is designed to guarantee uniformity of product quality in order to meet demands of a guaranteed market at established prices. "Experience has shown that contracts offered by some independent buyers are not in the best interests of the farmers," said Mr. Brownlee.

"It appears that Michigan farmers will lose their market and profit unless an integrated marketing program is developed. As the Michigan Farm Bureau movement with the most farmers, Farm Bureau has accepted the responsibility for producing a successful program."

Mr. Sikkema has been associated with the Michigan Farm Bureau for the past 3½ years as Director of Commodity Relations.

In addition to rendering marketing services, Farm Bureau will supply field guidance to producers on production and management problems.

"By cooperation with other organizations we will be able to reach a larger portion of the Michigan egg market for Michigan producers. This will be a major benefit to Michigan's agricultural economy as well as to consumers of Michigan - grown products," Mr. Brownlee said.

Great Lakes Cherry Co-op Meets

The Great Lakes Cherry Producers Marketing Co-op held its annual meeting March 15 at Grand Rapids.

Delegates heard encouraging reports from President John Reuter of Belding and Mr. James Temple, Michigan's representative in Washington, D.C. Great Lakes was the largest fruit market association in the United States. It bargains with processors.

Accomplishments listed for 1958 included: Production and management problems.

Aims for the future include: Market development in other foreign countries and areas, uniform grading in all handling areas, and to spare. A this is written, the plan for mortgaging the Veterans' Trust Fund, they finally passed bills embodying the Governor's proposal. The legislation to increase the State's debt limit, however, seems to be at last moving west for the approval of the voters.

"Experiences on which the organization had built were mailed to subscribers.

The success of the last year's tobacco crop has been phenomenal, but it is only a small fraction of the total tobacco raised in Michigan. The Michigan Tobacco Growers Education Foundation is developing a program to help growers understand the science and business of tobacco growing.

"Our member companies have been in the field for many years developing products for the farmer. The Michigan Farm Bureau Marketing Co-op held its annual meeting.

Winding up a session of the Michigan Legislature is now brought about by the adoption of an adoption resolution. This act in motion is a revised version of which fixed by the House committee and passed the House and Senate bills. The final version was introduced.

The House of Representatives passed such a resolution late in March and sent it to the Senate. Under joint action by both chambers, the resolution will be adopted by the second chamber.

The result of all this is likely to mean that the State legislature will be dissolved by the second chamber.

Farm Bureau has proposed a plan for Michigan farm spending. The plan would spend 100% of the Federal, or National, Farm Bureau's spending,

Farm Bureau has proposed a plan for Michigan farm spending. The plan would spend 100% of the Federal, or National, Farm Bureau's spending, to promote farm products. However, the plan was adopted.

Farm Bureau Position. March 26, 1959

Farm Bureau opposes the legislature to take the easy way, it is expected that bills embodying the tax programs of Governor Williams will be introduced by his legislative floor leaders.

He outlined his tax recommendations in a tele-
Today in Farm Bureau

Jerry Coffey
Coordinator of Organization for Michigan Farm Bureau

Membership is 71,343. This is 343 over American Farm Bureau Federation goal, and about 1,674 over our State Goal of 72,387.

The three "New Member Blitz Days," that were notified last month, were quite successful. Results were: March 16—W-Day (Farm Bureau Women) 20, March 18—D-Day (County Board Members) 30, March 21—D-Day (Insurance and Direct Distribution Agents) 96.

Total—146 new members.

The Agents ran away with the honors. The Young Women's Committees that did the best job was Saginaw. They signed 12 members. Con-

Tractor and Distribution Agents that did the best was Huron. They signed 12 members. Con-
Farm Bureau Mutual Increases Farm Safety Work

Wiring Leads as Fire Hazard

The Safety Division of Farm Bureau is working to strengthen fire wiring standards in Michigan. A survey of Farm Bureau members revealed that many homes are wired with Wiring and Insulation that is not in compliance with the Michigan Building Code.

In 1980, the Safety Division joined with the Michigan Home Builders Association to undertake a project to improve the wiring standards in the state. The project has been completed and the findings are now being used to develop new wiring standards.

The greatest single factor in home fires is the use of electricity. More than 70% of the fire losses reported in the state are attributed to electrical causes.

One of the most common causes of electrical fires is the use of extension cords. These cords are often left plugged into outlets and can overheat if they are used for long periods of time.

The use of extension cords in the home is a major safety hazard. They can overheat and cause a fire hazard. Therefore, it is recommended that they be used only for short periods of time.

New Name National Better Fut Champion

A new national directory of top Livestock producers has been released by the National Association of Livestock producers. The directory lists the top 250 livestock producers in the state of Michigan.

First to receive the directory was Richard Yarger, a dairy farmer from Michigan. The directory is designed to recognize the top livestock producers in the state and to promote the livestock industry.

Monsanto, a grain and oilseed dealer, also has Farm Bureau members from Clinton county.

The directory lists the top 250 livestock producers in the state of Michigan. The directory is designed to recognize the top livestock producers in the state and to promote the livestock industry.

A list of the top 250 livestock producers in the state of Michigan is available from the National Association of Livestock producers. The directory is designed to recognize the top livestock producers in the state and to promote the livestock industry.

You can wean 8-week pigs 10 lbs. heavier than average on Farm Bureau feedlots. Feed gets to cattle in any weather. Feed lots prove it, time after time! Steers finished as a concrete feedlot are heavier, faster, more profitable. There's no better feedlot! Wean 8-week pigs 10 lbs. heavier than average on Farm Bureau feedlots. Feed gets to cattle in any weather. Feed lots prove it, time after time! Steers finished as a concrete feedlot are heavier, faster, more profitable. There's no better feedlot!
**Activities of Women of Michigan Farm Bureau**

**District 1**

Mrs. Alfred J. Feister, Chairman

Berrien County. Twenty-one women representing 13 groups from the Berrien County Farm Bureau Women's Committee were the honored guests at a banquet in the Round Corners Clubroom, March 27. Mrs. Feister was the speaker at the occasion.

**District 2**

Mrs. Charles J. Schuster, Chairman

Jourard. A banquet of the Farm Bureau Women's Committee will be held April 12.

**District 3**

Mrs. Celestine Young, Chairman

Oceana County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met March 20 at the Farm Bureau building in the Parsonage Restaurant, Mears. Mrs. Robert Young, chairman, presided.

**District 4**

Mrs. Elsa Smith, Chairman

Flowerell B. S.

**Wayne Committee Prepares Safety Survey Report**

**District 5**

Mrs. John C. Welward, Chairman

We are very much interested in the safety survey of Wayne County. Our speaker, Mr. Charles H. Schauer, son of the late Mr. Schauer, gave a most interesting talk on the history of the survey and the methods used.

**District 6**

Mrs. Allen G. Cramble, Chairman

Our District Advisory Committee held their meeting February 27 at the Farm Bureau building in the Parsonage Restaurant, Mears. Mrs. Cramble was the speaker at the occasion.

**The Home Flower Garden**

**Care of Hybrid Tea Roses Planted in the Spring**

H. S. CHAPMAN

Hybrid Tea Roses are one of the most beautiful flowers to grow in Michigan. This is true because they are very showy and their flowers are very fragrant. But they do require constant care if they are to maintain their showy appearance.

Hybrid Tea Roses should be planted in the fall. This is true because they require a long period of cold weather to develop their flowers. If they are planted in the spring, they will not have time to develop their flowers before the cold weather comes again.

When planting Hybrid Tea Roses, they should be planted about 18 inches deep and about 12 inches apart. This is true because they require a lot of space to grow. If they are planted too close together, they will not have enough room to grow and the flowers will not be as showy.

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Minimum Tillage Cuts
Cost of Growing Crops

Michigan farmers are on their way to obtaining savings of up to 50% off their crop production costs by using minimum tillage practices.

Producers used the reduced inputs, because farmers make fewer trips over a field to get it ready for planting. For some, savings are $5 per

Minimum tillage means working the land only enough to make

soils will penetrate quickly and

plows will get off to a fast

start. The practices were developed, through on-farm, re-

search at the Michigan State University Agricultural Expres

sions. According to Dr. Cook, soil scientist at the station, about one-fourth of the farmers culti

ing corn three years ago were now getting

farming techniques. Even more farmers were expected to make the move to the row-crop system. "Many farmers using minimum tillage flat lore that the only tillage they do is to get the crop started, and they have been more than happy with the results." said Dr. Cook.

"Others pride that the soil remains in a light tillage implement."

The use of a light tillage implement will help save on fuel costs and make it easier to work the land. It is also important to use the correct seeds for the soil type. This will help save on seed costs. The practices were devel

oped to help farmers reduce costs, by using minimum tillage. "This is because the soil is loose, and it is pretty hard for weeds."

Many farmers using minimum tillage and starter fertili

izer say they have better weed control with just as good weed control with minimum tillage practices. About half of the sugar beet growers the surrounding soil is packed, because farmers make fewer trips to drag disks and h"rrows over

son. or four times are now getting

moneysaving practices this sea

ways 'cultivated their corn three

age leaves soil in condition to ab

eranches. Cook says.

michigan farmer the best efforts in your behalf to improve livestock marketing in the

years. Careful attention to yarding, sort-

ing, feeding and selling brings Michigan farmer the ut-

most of growing crops. The program carried out a committee marketing program which will benefit you as livestock producers.

Market Information Service

Market information is gathered from the various

sellers actively marketing the food industry. It is important for producers to be aware of the market conditions and how they affect their production costs.

Cooperation on National Scale

Count y-one Producers Livestock marketing as

agencies, including The Michigan Livestock Exchange, are members of The National Livestock Producers Asso

ciation, the largest organization of its kind in the world. Over half of America's farmers and ranchers are served by these agencies. Michigan Livestock Ex

change president Dave Yoder said, "If we are not

working together when perceptions and prob

lems arise,"

Service to Youth Groups—Your

Association has long been a leader in promoting programs designed to encour

age farm youth along sound lines in

livestock production and marketing.

Auction Market Service—Mich

igan farmers, ranchers and feeders participate in two Auction Markets in the state — at Battle Creek, and St. Louis. At these points both hogs and lamb are graded, feeder replacements are sold, and feedlot service is available. These serv

ices confirm the idea that a "producer market system of selling livestock" here made these auctions the largest in the state.
EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

be placed at 100% parity.

A study by the Department of Agriculture indicates the cost of such a plan would be from $1 billion to $2 billion dollars per year.

Some time ago the AFEF urged that the out-dated parity formula be scrapped. A new price support formula should be based on a percentage of the immediately preceding year. The Michigan Farm Bureau has supported this plan. Secretary Benson recommended it to the Senate Agricultural Committee February 16.

In making this recommendation to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Secretary Benson said: "Our agriculture is a dynamic changing industry, undergoing a technological revolution which is irreversible. Most of agriculture is free of controls and attempts at price fixing at unrealistic levels. This part of agriculture is doing reasonably well. Its markets are expanding and production is kept in reasonable balance with demand."

"The present surplus situation in a very few crops gives ample evidence of the shortcomings of old laws that have not been adequately changed."

"We are directly responsible for the difficult legislative decisions with which this Committee is faced."

"We will supply promptly factual data available and the best judgments that can be had from the various parts of agriculture.""...

The situation calls for prompt and forthright action."

Memorandum

Agents Win In Blitz Days Contest

JERRY CONDEE

Coordinator of Organization

This year the Ohio Farm Bureau is scheduled for some special memorializing. The Ohio Farm Bureau has prepared a Memorial which will be exhibited as a result of challenges issued by members of the Ohio Board of Agriculture. The Memorial is an ideal gift for your organization.

Handshake Spans Progress of Farm Bureau Insurance

The Michigan Farm Bureau has made a significant contribution to the development of the insurance industry in the state. The Farm Bureau has long been recognized as a leader in the field of agricultural insurance.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

April 1, 1959

South America

The United States and South America have a great potential for reciprocal trade in the coming years. The potential for South American trade was discussed at the recent meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau's Latin American Committee.

Washington, D.C.

The Michigan Farm Bureau's Legislative Committee has been very active in the legislative session.

District 11

MKB, Ken Clonay, Chairman

Stephensville, Ill.

Chippewa County Farm Women's Committee met

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

April 1, 1959

Top Corn

How to Tell You Whether to Grow Corn

HERE'S WHAT I DO:

1. Test my soil, to find out what it lacks.
2. Use the right seeds, properly planted.
3. Use the correct rotation and crop sequence.
4. Keep my tillage down to a minimum.

Today I've got to have higher yields for increased profits and so do you. That's why I make sure my crops are fed the right plant food, at the right time, in the right way. Of course, I use Farm Bureau fertilizer. I learned a long time ago that buying Farm Bureau products doesn't cost...it pays.

PLANT FOOD DIVISION
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

IF YOU WANT

• GREATER YIELDS
• LESS MOISTURE
• LESS STALK LODGING
• MORE PROFITS

plant Michigan Certified Hybrid Seed Corn

There is a Michigan Certified Hybrid that is equal to or superior to any variety of seed corn that you may have grown in the past. Test results show this Michigan Certified Hybrid Seed Corn has been developed and grown in Michigan; specifically for Michigan growing conditions. You can't afford to gamble on anything but the best, so get Farm Bureau's Michigan Certified Hybrid Seed Corn.

ORDER NOW from your F. B. Services Dealer

NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME the Farm Bureau emblem appears on the Michigan Certified Hybrid Seed Corn bag. It means that Farm Bureau Services stands behind the guarantee that's found on every bag on every bag.

20% MONUMENy URGES RESOURCE TAX

Field Tests conducted since 1953 show that the best maturing, highest yield Soybean Seed for Michigan's growing conditions is Michigan Certified Soybean Seed...

To Improve Your Yield, Spokcy

Michigan CERTIFIED SOYBEANS

MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

SEED

BARLEY • OAT • CORN • FIELD BEANS • HAY • MOLASSE • POTATO • SOYBEANS • WHEAT • OATMEAL

...recommended specifically for Michigan growing conditions.
Farm Bureau Market Place

Try A 25 Word Classified Ad for $1

SPECIAL RATE to Farm Bureau members: 25 words for $1 for each edition. Additional words 5 cents each per edition. Figures like 12 or 12-50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 10 cents per word for one edition. Two or more editions take rate of 8 cents per word per edition. All classified ads are cash with order.

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<td>FEED DEPARTMENT</td>
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The farmer must use care to use the right kind of protective equipment. He needs the proper mask, rubber boot, and gloves. The mode of delivery to which the equipment is attached must be available for the farmer to use. Some sprinkling chemicals are very poisonous. While it might take a hard-boiled egg to kill a 100-pound man with a poison, a farmer who has the proper amount of equipment on can be killed through a passage. The farmer must use care to not inhale the chemicals. The poisons must have a label. Some of the new chemicals require that the user wear rubber boots and gloves. Some of the newer chemicals are very poisonous. If the farmer has the proper equipment, he will not be killed by the chemicals. If the farmer uses the equipment properly, he will not be killed by the chemicals. If the farmer uses the equipment properly, he will not be killed by the chemicals. If the farmer uses the equipment properly, he will not be killed by the chemicals.

Discussion Topics

Liability for Damage

1. Do you know of any cases of insecticides and weed-killers being used in a manner that would cause serious injury or death to the person using them? If you do, please give the details.

2. Do you use any kind of protective clothing or equipment when you use the insecticides and weed-killers? If you do, what kind? Why do you use it?

3. Do you use any kind of protective clothing or equipment when you use the insecticides and weed-killers? If you do, what kind? Why do you use it?

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