

Michigan Farm News

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37th Year

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Farm Bureau's 1960 Goal is 72,927 Families

EDITORIAL

We Are Commencing to Win

CLARK L. BRODY

President Charles B. Shuman of the American Farm Bureau voiced this note of encouragement at the 40th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau at East Lansing, November 9 when he said,

"We are commencing to win!"

Congress is running out of panaceas and a change in farm programs is inevitable.

Political remedies for economic adjustment have not worked, continued President Shuman. They have delayed adjustment to market requirements.

"Farm income would be better if there had been no price and crop controls."

President Shuman cited the \$9 billion surplus inventories in government storage with carrying costs running over \$1,000,000 a day.

"They are the real cause for bad public relations for agriculture."

However, he believes that we are beginning to make progress toward the elimination of unsound government programs. Cotton and corn surplus problems are "on the way to solution."

Apparently he had reference to cotton growers asking for lower price supports and less drastic restrictions on acreage.

Also, to the fact that a high proportion of the corn producers have voluntarily disregarded the price support and acreage allotment programs.

He could have had in mind the surplus butter and dried milk, all of which have been liquidated from government inventories.

President Shuman indicated that no satisfactory solution for the baffling wheat surplus dilemma has been developed.

He cautioned against turning to the "Brannan plan" of production payments from the Federal Treasury to maintain farm levels. He branded it the "tool of socialism" and described socialism as "atheism dressed up."

Government farm programs are needed but "they should be designated to help farmers make adjustments to the rapid changes in agriculture."

Support of agricultural research and extension were named as examples of projects that help farmers to help themselves.

Michigan Farm Bureau President Walter Wightman staunchly upheld these principles in his annual address to the delegates November 10. He warned against "pressing for Federal Aid for what we can do better ourselves," and that getting the government hopelessly in debt leads to inflation and bureaucratic control of agriculture.

"Uncle Sam doesn't have anything to give us except what he has first taken away from us," said President Wightman.

These timely messages from 727 delegates in their determination to free agriculture from government controls and advance the cause of freedom for American citizens. This was expressed in the unanimous adoption of this resolution:

"The sad experience of the past several years has shown that programs to fix prices and control production have not solved our agricultural surplus problems, nor insured satisfactory farm income."

"We reaffirm our desire to move as rapidly as possible in the elimination of Government controls over our farm operations and to allow the law of supply and demand to govern prices of farm products."

"As our national government gradually moves away from production payments and support prices it would promote a return to a free agriculture essential to the American way of life."

To accomplish these objectives, the Farm Bureau has persistently worked for the lowering of price

(Continued on Page 6)

Awards for Distinguished Service to Agriculture—See Photo Story Page 7



PRESIDENT WIGHTMAN

DR. CARL F. HUFFMAN

HERBERT M. VAN AKEN

Wightman & Smith Re-elected

President & Vice-President of Michigan Farm Bureau; Convention Urges Revision of Tax Structure

Walter W. Wightman of Fennville and Robert E. Smith of Fowlerville were re-elected president and vice-president of the Michigan Farm Bureau on November 11 by the Board of Directors, following the 40th annual meeting of the organization at Michigan State University November 9-10-11.

The Board of Delegates re-elected these Directors for terms of two years: District 1—Max K. Hood of Paw Paw; District 3—Allen F. Rush, Lake Orion; District 5—Dale Dunckel, Williamston; District 7—Thomas E. Hahn, Rodney; District 11—Edmund Sager of Stephenson; Director-at-large, Walter W. Wightman of Fennville; representing Women of Michigan Farm Bureau, Mrs. Alex Kennedy of Posen.

District 9—Eugene Roberts of Lake City was elected for two years. He succeeds Elmer Warner of Traverse City.

David Gleib of Hillsdale was elected to the Board to represent Young People of Farm Bureau.

The 40th annual meeting brought together 727 voting delegates from 71 County Farm Bureaus to represent the membership of 72,361 farm families.

1. They heard President Wightman's Message, which is presented in part in the President's Column on page 2.

2. They heard and approved the annual report of Clarence E. Prentice, Secretary-Manager of Michigan Farm Bureau. This is presented in part on page 7.

3. President Charles B. Shuman of the American Farm Bureau said the Farm Bureau viewpoint is beginning to win on the national farm policy. See Editorial on page 1.

4. Hassil E. Schenck, former President of the Indiana Farm Bureau, said that unless we stop inflation, we shall continue to price ourselves out of foreign markets... and lose more of our home market to producers in other nations.

4. The delegate body considered 111 resolutions of policy and program recommended by the State Resolutions Committee. Nearly all of them were adopted. This edition we start publishing on page 6 the resolutions adopted on State Affairs.

The Farm Bureau opposed a Constitutional Convention, and another reapportionment of the Legislature, directed at the State Senate.

It urged a "rational tax structure as the long time solution to the State's financial crisis." See page 6.

The delegates rejected a proposal to change County Farm Bureaus to some representation at annual meeting from

one delegate for each 100 members to one delegate for each 150 members. The majority said the MFB annual meeting is very educational, and that more delegates and members should attend rather than less. Michigan Farm Bureau has the largest annual meeting delegate body in the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The delegates rejected a resolution to support the Michigan Soil Conservation Committee's request for \$30,000 to be used on a matching basis with counties to provide soil conservation district aides.

They defeated a resolution urging counties to match state funds to enforce laws relative to motor boat safety. Delegates said boat license fees should be used.

They tabled resolutions to increase Michigan cherry sales promotion tax from \$2 to \$3 per ton, and a resolution to consider state grades and standards for poultry, including turkeys.

Nat'l Milk Producers Elects Glenn Lake

Glenn Lake, North Branch, Michigan dairy farmer, was elected first vice-president of the National Milk Producers Federation at Washington, D.C., November 18. He is President of the Michigan Milk Producers Ass'n.

The Federation is the largest dairy commodity trade organization in the nation, representing 129 dairy cooperatives with membership totaling nearly 500,000 dairy farmers.

This Edition 72,691 copies of the Michigan Farm News were mailed to subscribers.



Vice-President

ROBERT E. SMITH of Fowlerville, Livingston County, re-elected Vice-President of Michigan Farm Bureau for second term November 11, 1959. Engaged in general farming on 300 acres, specializing in production of grain crops for seed, and poultry production, including hatchery eggs. Director of MFB six years. Active in Farm Bureau 21 years. Started in Young People of Farm Bureau.

To Attend AFBF Meet At Chicago

Michigan Farm Bureau will be well represented at the 1959 annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation at Chicago December 13 to 17. Six voting delegates from Michigan Farm Bureau, several members of the MFB staff, and probably 100 or more representatives from County Farm Bureaus will attend.

Voting delegates are President Walter W. Wightman, Directors Dale Dunckel, Elton Smith, Eugene DeMatio, Edmund Sager, and Eugene Roberts.

Main business of the convention is the policy and program recommendations from the AFBF resolutions committee. Mr. Wightman is a member of the committee.

Speakers include Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, Senator John L. McClellan of Arkansas, Representative John W. Byrnes of Wisconsin, General Carlos F. Romulo, Ambassador of the Philippines to the United States, and former United Nations General Assembly President.

One Farmer in 5 on Direct Price Support

Harold Tukeley, head of the MSU Horticulture Dept., recently estimated that 4 of every 5 farmers don't share directly in government price supports.

Opportunities for New Members

Workers Want to Invite Every Farmer Who is Not Now a Member to Join And Share in the Benefits

Several thousand men and women will carry the invitation to Farm Bureau membership to farmers in the 1960 Roll Call starting January 4.

The state goal is 72,927 family members.

Roll Call workers will devote themselves to two jobs in the coming campaign in the Lower Peninsula:

- 1—Securing new memberships.
- 2—Renewing the last of the old memberships.

The Upper Peninsula Roll Call was conducted in October ahead of the snow.

Some 6,000 new memberships will be sought this year. Over 900 new memberships have been signed since August 31. About 24,500 memberships had been renewed for 1960 as of November 25.

We urge every member to cooperate in the regular-by-mail campaign conducted in November and December. Mail your dues to your County Farm Bureau secretary.

Roll Call managers, assistants, and teams are getting ready. Roll Call managers and assistants have had a school on organization work. Workers will have training schools in December. Roll Call managers will meet together at Michigan State University for luncheon Monday noon, December 28.

Why do people join the Farm Bureau? Most members say they joined because someone invited them to join.

They join for certain benefits available through membership in Farm Bureau:

1—50,250 families in Farm Bureau have Blue Cross-Blue Shield prepaid hospital-medical-surgical service on the group plan and through Farm Bureau as a group. The group plan provides far more benefits and longer benefits than does the individual contract for Blue Cross-Blue Shield.

2—Farm Bureau owners of 61,000 automobiles and trucks enjoy the best of automobile insurance at cost through the Farm Mutual Insurance Company. Many extra coverages have been added to the policy without further charge. In 1959 the Company declared a savings dividend of 10% to policyholders.

3—Farmers Petroleum Cooperative will distribute \$181,000 in cash in patronage dividends for 1959 to Farm Bureau member patrons who are in its Direct Distribution program.

4—Farm Bureau Services, Inc., provides high quality fertilizers, seeds, feeds and other farm supplies. It has an important influence throughout the state on the price for these commodities.

Search Continues For Tax Agreement

STANLEY M. POWELL
Legislative Counsel, MFB

Michigan's lawmakers and Governor Williams can't agree as to how much new revenue is needed nor as to how it should be raised. The Governor insists that \$110 million of additional State taxes should be imposed.

Most of the Republican Senators feel that around \$72 million of additional tax revenue would be adequate.

Some suggest that the easiest way to meet the situation would be through adding another cent to the Sales Tax rate. That solution is by no means as simple as it sounds. There is written into our State Constitution a provision which prohibits the Legislature from imposing a Sales Tax at a higher rate than 3%.

That restriction was the price which union labor exacted when the Conlin Amendment to clarify the portion of the Sales Tax revenue to go to the public schools was being considered in the House of Representatives prior

to its being placed on the General Election ballot in November 1954.

Last spring the Republicans in both the House and Senate fought stubbornly to have an amendment submitted to the voters at the April 1959 Election which would have eliminated this restriction, or raised the ceiling to 4% or authorized an additional tax of 1% by direct vote of the people. They lost the battle.

For a time it was thought that it would be legal to raise the Use Tax rate, regarding which no restriction appears in the Constitution. The Legislature tried that method but the result of their labors was thrown out by the Supreme Court by a vote of 5 to 3, with the Justices, strangely enough, splitting exactly on the basis of their political affiliations.

It has been urged that provisions be made for submitting a Constitutional amendment legislating an increase in the Sales Tax to the voters.

(Continued on Page 2)

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Einar E. Ungren Editor
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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.

Michigan Farm Bureau

- PresidentW. W. Wightman
Fennville
V.-Pres.R. E. Smith, Fowlerville
Sec'yN. D. Eastman, Lansing
- DIRECTORS BY DISTRICTS**
1—Max K. Hood.....Paw Paw, R-1
2—Elaque Knirk.....Galley, R-1
3—Alton F. Russ.....Lake Orion, R-1
4—Elton R. Smith.....Caledonia, R-1
5—Dale Dunckel.....Williamston, R-1
6—Ward G. Hodge.....Snover, R-1
7—Thomas Hahn.....Rochester, R-1
8—Kenneth Johnson.....Freedland, R-2
9—Eugene Roberts.....Lake City, R-1
10—Eugene DeMatteo, W. Branch, R-3
11—Edmund Sager.....Stephenson
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Robert E. Smith.....Fowlerville, R-2
Walter Wightman.....Fennville, R-1
- Representing
WOMEN OF FARM BUREAU
Mrs. Alex Kennedy.....Posen, R-3
- Representing
FARM BUREAU YOUNG PEOPLE
David Giel.....Hillsdale, R-1

President's Column



MR. WIGHTMAN

Allen Dulles has said, "The conquest for the minds and allegiance of millions of people is just begun, we can't afford to neglect it."

The outcome may well be decided by those of you who till the soil and work with the wonders of the universe.

This may not be a shooting war, we won't be taking the musket down from the wall to go out and protect our rights. It will be a conquest of ideologies. But the stakes are just as high.

We are told that two things have to be accomplished to socialize a country.

First, get the government hopelessly in debt, and second, get control of agriculture.

This is why some planners have been so concerned with the welfare of agriculture. This is why they are so anxious to put our agricultural economy under the control of the Federal government.

This is one of the reasons why the decisions we make as agricultural producers will have so much influence on the preservation of the free enterprise system.

One of Joe Stalin's nine important points in the plan to take over our country is for the government to take over complete control of the marketing of all farm commodities.

So it's time we get concerned about the Federal debt and inflation. We should recognize efforts to get control of agriculture when we see them.

This is why we belong to



Organization

ROGER FOERCH has been promoted to head the Organization Department of the Michigan Farm Bureau. He is in charge of the 1960 campaign starting January 5 to increase the Farm Bureau membership to 72,927 families. He had been serving as acting coordinator of the Organization Department.

Mr. Foerch has been employed by Farm Bureau since 1941. He started with Farm Bureau Services at Traverse City, was assistant manager at Chesaning, and manager at Bancroft. He was membership representative for the Northwestern Region for several years, and in 1955 became coordinator of insurance relations for Michigan Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies.

Who's Eligible For the Farm Bureau

Farmers and other persons interested in agriculture. This is the way they are described as Members and Associate Members in the by-laws of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Members

Section 1. Membership Qualifications. (1) Only persons engaged in the production of agricultural or horticultural products, including lessees and tenants of land used for 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 membership for the balance of the calendar year, and that married minors must qualify as a family membership.

Section 3. Associate Members.

There shall be two classes of associate memberships: Class I. Other persons (excluding persons enumerated in Class II) interested in agriculture may become associate members by making application, and, if accepted by the board of directors, upon execution of the membership agreement, will be entitled to the rights of membership, excepting the right to vote.

Associate memberships of this class shall be limited so as not to exceed 10% of the membership in any one county.

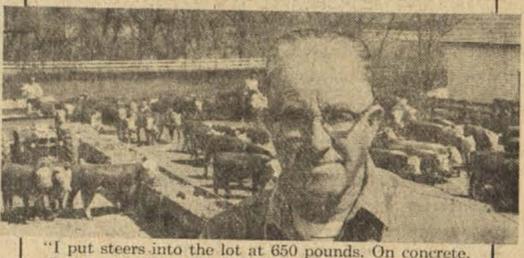
Class II. Full-time employees of this association, or of its subsidiary companies, may become associate members by making application, and, if accepted by the board of directors, upon execution of the membership agreement, will be entitled to the rights of membership excepting the right to vote.



\$5 Million of Life Insurance in 5 Weeks

CLARK L. BRODY DAY in the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies was celebrated this year when the agency force sold \$5,000,000 of life insurance in five weeks, ending November 7. Fifty of the prize-winning agents and their wives attended the Brody Day dinner at Michigan State University Nov. 7.

Mr. Brody (right) is shown receiving a desk set from Nyle L. Vermillion, administrative vice-president of the Insurance Companies. Mr. Brody said to the agents, "Your work in life insurance is a great service to people who will appreciate it more and more in the years to come."



"My steers make market weight 3 weeks sooner since I paved my feed lot with concrete!" Says ALFRED ASK, Triumph, Minnesota, veteran leader of choice and prime cattle

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Today in Farm Bureau

ROGER FOERCH
Coordinator of Organization Dep't, MFB

Memberships paid in toward the 1960 membership campaign total 25,384 of which 903 are new.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, as of the close of October 31, had 1,486,154 members. This is 28,933 ahead of last year at this time. With another month to go, it looks like the American Farm Bureau Federation will end with an increase in membership for 1959.

Plans for the 1960 Roll Call are completed, and all regional training meetings have been held. The final step will be the county training and information meetings. These will be held just prior to Kick-off which is January 4.

Over 6,000 prospects will have three contacts this year even before the workers call on them. With the good start we have toward our goal plus this selected group of prospects, we should reach goal by January 15.

Reminder notices will be going out from most County Farm Bureaus this month to all unpaid members. If your 1960 membership is not paid and you don't receive a notice from your County Farm Bureau, please consider this as your reminder.

Michigan Farm Bureau Institute is almost upon us. The dates are December 8 and 9. It will be held at Kellogg Center on the campus of Michigan State University.

We are looking forward to hosting approximately 350 county committee chairmen for these two dates.

The program this year will feature Jack Yaeger, former executive secretary of Michigan Farm Bureau; "Bill" Eastman, from the American Farm Bureau Federation; and Lovell Thornton, from the Colorado Farm Bureau.

We are looking forward to a real interesting and challenging two days.

American Farm Bureau Convention is to be held in Chicago this year during the week of December 13. You who are interested in attending, contact your

AWARD-WINNING FARM YOUTH PROJECTS BEGIN WITH LOW COST LOANS FROM PRODUCTION CREDIT



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PRODUCTION CREDIT Associations of Michigan
Credit life insurance available for your protection. For further information call your local P C A —46 offices in Michigan.

Search Continues

(Continued from Page 1)

Tax at a Special Election. This would be impossible as the Constitution provides that amendments to it can be considered only at a regular election. The next regular election will be in November 1960.

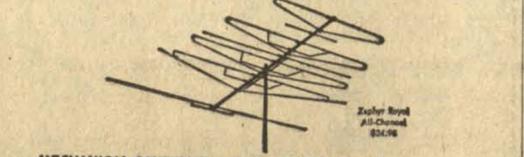
There are those who predict that the present Legislature will not approve placing any such proposal on the ballot and if the voters are to have an opportunity to express themselves in this regard it will have to be as the result of a petition campaign.

Officials of the Michigan Farm Bureau have been approached by representatives of other groups who wonder if the Farm Bureau would be willing to assist in such a petition effort. The Farm Bureau was responsible for obtaining over 100,000 signatures on the petitions which placed the "Balanced Legislature" proposal on the ballot in 1952. Thus far no definite decision has been reached in this connection by the Michigan Farm Bureau.

With a general election coming up next year neither party relishes the prospect of being held accountable for imposing additional tax burdens on the voters.

For the Michigan Farm Bureau's position see resolution on State Financial Crisis which appears on page 6.

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MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

December 1, 1959



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 - Cattle Supplement
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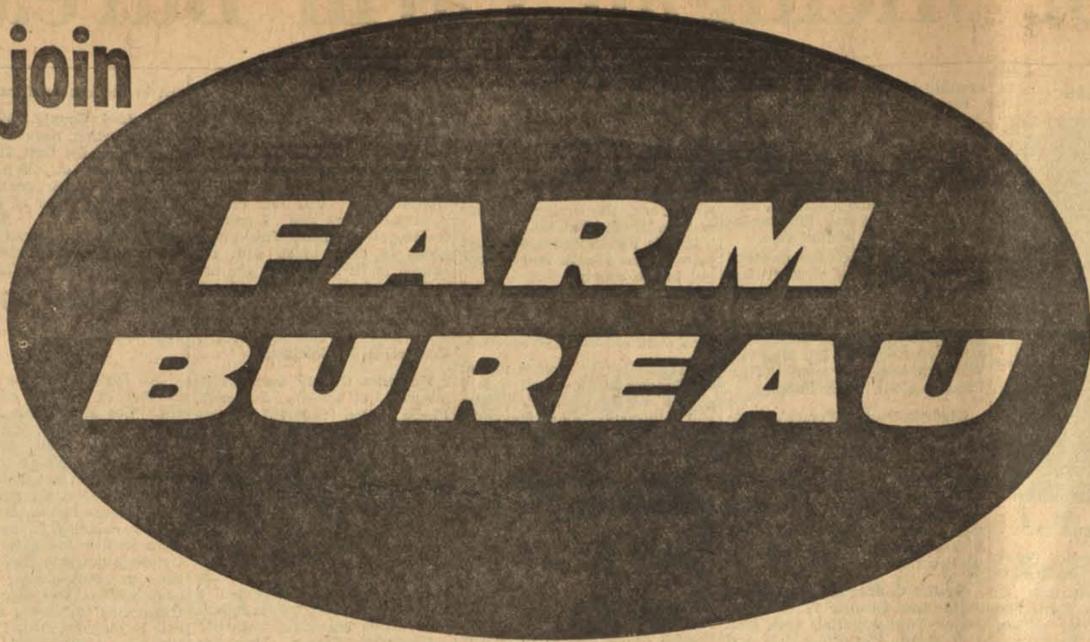
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Farm Bureau has . . .

- Protected the legislative voice of rural Michigan by fighting for fair representation in our Legislature.
- Gained for farmers exemption on fuel taxes where fuels are used in field work (both State and Federal).
- Continued to fight for farmer exemption on the Sales Tax on farm production supplies.
- Fought through laws to bring farmers true value in the quality of feeds and seeds.
- Gained a special low-cost rate on farm truck and pick-up licenses.
- Placed Michigan in high quality standards in fertilizers—high food content per ton.
- Made available insurance at cost, tailored to fit the farmer's needs.

Farm Bureau assures that . . .

You will have a voice in your local, state and national affairs.

You and your family are eligible for complete Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage.

You may apply for low-cost insurance protection.

You will find quality advantages and savings in Farm Bureau supplies and petroleum products.

You will be welcomed by your Farm Bureau neighbors.

We need every farmer behind a CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM for Michigan agriculture

We invite you to join hands with your neighbors in your County in solving the new and increasing problems of Agriculture



ROLL CALL JANUARY 4-9



Activities of Women of Michigan Farm Bureau

District 1

Mrs. Alma Foster, Chairman
Niles R-3

Berrien County Women's Committee met at the Youth Memorial Building on November 18.

Mrs. Robert Burandt gave the report of District 1 meeting at Paw Paw on October 30th, where Marge Karker gave a very interesting report on her trip to Scotland to the A. C. W.

Mrs. Alex Kennedy was re-elected State President and Mrs. Harry Johnson elected Vice-president. The meeting speaker, Mrs. Ben Kohrs, said that we as Farm Bureau Women must get behind our elections and get good leaders in office. Mrs. Olive Colcord, Cancer Society representative for Berrien County, showed the film, "Never Alone," a very good film to be shown to a mixed group and is available.

The committee planning the 1960 program will meet with Mrs. Brundt December 1st.

Cass Women's Committee met at Mrs. Louis Playford's November 3 with 11 groups represented. Chairman, Mrs. Bakeman presided. The Legislative Chairman said the 4c sales tax amounted to 14 million dollars in the short time it was effective.

It was decided to give Christmas gifts to the patients at the County Hospital again this year.

Kalamazoo County Women's Committee enjoyed a potluck dinner at the County Center Building November 2. Chairman, Louise Smith presided. Announcement was made of the First Autumn Book Festival to be held during National Book Week, November 2 through the 6th.

Notes of thank you came from the Social Service of Kalamazoo State Hospital, M. I. Club of Galesburg, and the Medical Auxiliary of Kalamazoo for the pleasure of meeting with us on our Rural-Urban meeting day. Our program for the new year was read and approved.

Announcement was made of the proposed trip to Washington February 23 for Farm Bureau members.

St. Joseph County. Mrs. Richard Hagelgans, Centreville, was installed as chairman of the St. Joseph County Farm Bureau Women at the November Meeting. Mrs. Gerald Bohm, vice-chairman and Mrs. Delbert Hahn, financial secretary, were also installed.

Mrs. A. B. Eley, installing officer, read a brief resume of the duties of each officer as she presented corsages to them.

Committee appointments by Mrs. Hagelgans for the 1959-60: Legislative chairman, Mrs. Kenneth Persons; Safety, Mrs. Paul Davis; Resolutions, Mrs. Virgil Miller; Citizenship, Mrs. Forrest Brauker; Recreation, Mrs. A. B. Eley and Mrs. Paul Kline;

United Nations, Mrs. Donald Pierce; Hospital, Mrs. Galen Smith; Mrs. Webb Ellsworth; A. C. W. W., Mrs. Paul Sloan; Farm Bureau Services, Mrs. Mary Guthrie; Publicity, Miss Susan Shumaker and Mrs. Carl Lewis.

Mrs. Kenneth Persons, program chairman, introduced Mrs. Norman Harvey of Jones who reported on the three-day National Education Conference held in Ohio. She attended as a delegate of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women.

Ideas presented in the three-day conference covered most phases of education from taxes at the local level through federal government subsidies, training, selection, and keeping of good teachers, transportation of teachers as well as pupils in the school system; election of qualified school board members, their duties and responsibilities; curriculum development, text book choices, particularly in the field of "Social Studies"; new teaching aids. Citizens ought to insist that 50% of the tax take be on a local level to keep control of schools and other institutions on the local level.

Mrs. J. Ware and Mrs. Galen Smith of Burr Oak were hostesses for the potluck dinner which preceded the program session.

Van Buren County. Our Rural-Urban Day program was on November 3. After a bounteous potluck luncheon Chairman Sallis gave a resume of the work accomplished by the group for the year and regretted that she was unable to go on.

Morehouse, thanked Mrs. Vida Incore, chairman, Mrs. Sallis for the time and effort she had given to the group and presented her with a black purse as a token of the group's appreciation. Miss Mary Ann Meldrum, a "Counter Intelligence Agent" for the Kalamazoo Marketing Agency, explained her job. She does promote farm products to the total income as 25% of the total income is spent on food today.

Agriculture is a 75 billion dollar industry, one of the largest. It is predicted that by 1970 the lower portion of Michigan will be largely an urban area. Miss Meldrum had samples of concentrated, frozen and packaged foods for the group to look at, told about the new canned cottage cheese to be put out by Gerber's Baby Foods.

Many aerosol products such as dry-fry grease, the whips and a horseradish appetizer. These products are packaged for the consumer, so if we are not satisfied and don't buy them they will go off the market or be revised to our liking. Chairman Morehouse appointed the program committee for the new year. 1st Vice-chairman Barker will be chairman with Mrs. Dowd, Mrs. Hoxie, and Mrs. Morehouse assisting. The December meeting will be a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Schnoor, with a \$1 gift exchange.

District 2

Mrs. Geo. Crisenbery, Chairman
Jackson R-8

Branch County. Mrs. Ellis Dickey was elected vice-chairman at our November meeting. Mrs. Ladyman, safety chairman, reported on the area safety meeting at Coldwater.

The Secretary of State, Mr. Hare, reported difficulty in writing adequate laws for highway safety that are fair to all citizens. New attitudes are needed instead of new laws.

In present day accidents one person is killed and 77 injured in every 100 accidents reported.

Educational programs are needed on all phases of safety. Organizations can help by planning special projects, such as clearing shrubs away from driveways to eliminate hazardous conditions.

Calhoun County Farm Bureau Women met Nov. 3 at the Community Building with Mrs. Earl Smith as hostess. Mrs. Brant of the citizenship committee told how people enter the U. S. illegally. Mrs. Rose reported on the United Nations.

The foundations are in for the new Calhoun County Farm Bureau office building.

Mrs. Roy Lord presented a tentative program for the year. Hostesses were chosen.

Officers elected: Chairman, Mrs. Charles Knapp; treasurer, Mrs. George Smith; secretary, Mrs. William Brenner, to fill an unexpired term.

Jackson County Women's Committee used its November meeting to plan attendance at the women's state meeting.

Our next meeting is December 1 in the basement of the County Building at Jackson. We plan to make two baskets for needy families as we did last year. All Farm Bureau women are invited.

District 5

Mrs. John C. Watling, Chairman
Bath, R-1

Clinton County Farm Bureau women heard Mrs. Robert Russell of Kalamazoo. She is Michigan President of the United Nations organization. Progress is being made at the retarded children's school said Mrs. Fred Biergans. We shall sponsor a Christmas project for the children. Community groups are invited to participate. A small gift will be purchased for each child and the balance used for much needed equipment.

Eaton County women had as guest speaker, Secretary of State, James N. Hare. Mrs. Nellie Van Sickle reported at the District meeting the Farm Bureau Educational meeting at Columbus, Ohio.

Genesee women contributed \$20 to the retarded children's school. Mrs. Elizabeth Sanford, newly elected County Chairman, will attend the A.F.B.F. Convention at Chicago. Mr. Means from the City Health Department told how his Department works to protect the public.

Re-elected



MRS. ALEX KENNEDY

Mrs. Alex Kennedy of Posen, Route 1, Alpena County was re-elected as State Chairman of Women of Michigan Farm Bureau at the 15th annual meeting at Michigan State University, November 9. She was re-elected to the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors November 11 to represent the Women of Farm Bureau.

MRS. HARRY F. JOHNSON of St. Louis, Gratiot county, was elected vice-chairman of Women of Farm Bureau.

His unit became a part of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force under General Sir Edmund Allenby, whose purpose was to engage and throw back the Turkish armies who were menacing the free of the Suez Canal and to free the Holy City of Jerusalem from Turkish rule. History tells us how successful this campaign was.

After the war Mr. Chapman returned to Egypt as horticulturalist to the Egyptian Government. In 1920 he again visited Palestine and neighboring territories to collect native plants. It was on this occasion that he met, lived with, and received valuable assistance from his plant collecting tours from the great Lawrence of Arabia, who was then Chief of British Administration in Palestine.

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I am tempted to call this article "Had Gun—Did Travel" for such were my experiences.

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The General entered the city on foot and left it on foot with no pomp whatsoever. The inhabitants of the city gathered in a great crowd and when the General mounted a few steps to ad-

dress them and to make known the Proclamation, great numbers wept for joy. Priests were seen to embrace one another and weep.

At that moment an old Arab prophecy was fulfilled.—"When the Nile should flow into Palestine, a great prophet from the west should drive the Turk from Jerusalem."

The Nile had flowed into Palestine because the British Army engineers had piped water for the advancing troops from Egypt to within a few miles of the Holy City.

The Proclamation was read from a terrace below the Tower of David. It was read in English, French, Arabic, Hebrew, Greek, Russian, and Italian. It said that order would be maintained in all of the hallowed sites of the three great religions which were to be guarded and preserved for the free use of worshippers. The ceremony was most solemn. Tears were seen to pass over the sun-tanned face of General Allenby.

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The date palm is also common in a few parts of the countryside, especially near the coast. Most of the date trees produce hard, dry fruits which are sold under the name of dry dates. The fruits may not appear quite so tempting as the soft fruit varieties but they are very nutritious and valued highly as food.

The most common tree in Pal-

evening of November 3.

Mrs. Walter Krompeltz conducted the business meeting. Our chairmen for the coming year: Safety, Mrs. Ray Strouse; Legislative, Mrs. Charles Kleinhart; Citizenship, Mrs. Jake Miller; Sunshine and Publicity, Mrs. Perry Davis; Farm Bureau Information, Mrs. Walter Ehle.

Bill Griffin from the Harrison Department of Conservation showed two films; one was on the pine martin, a member of the weasel family being started in Porcupine Mountain area. The other film was of the beautiful winter and summer scenes of the Porcupine Mt. State Park.

Gladwin County Women's Committee met November 4 at the Gladwin Court House. A dinner will be served by the women for the county group chairman.

A change in the county by-laws extends the term a woman may serve on a committee from 2 to 4 years. Dr. Sweet presented two films on cancer.

Gratiot County Women's Committee met October 27 at Washington Township Hall with Mrs. J. B. Smith, Mrs. Ruby Huss and Mrs. Harold Crumbaugh as hostesses.

Mrs. Daniel Mahoney, County Superintendent of Schools, spoke on the K-12 Bill and school district organization. Mr. Mahoney said there is a conflict in school laws. One law states any child under 16 years of age must be in school. Another law states that no school has to accept a non-resident child. This conflict should be considered.

Mr. Mahoney said that due to population growth and mobility, schools in the state of Michigan have to prepare for 60,000 to 70,000 more students each year. In Gratiot county we have 10,033

students this year compared to 7,400 ten years ago.

Mrs. MacLaren reported on the safety survey. 62 accidents were reported.

Mrs. Florence Shankel gave an interesting account of her trip to New York, the United Nations and the Russian Exhibit.

Phyllis VanderVulth won first place in the Health Poster Contest in the county.

Gratiot County Herald will cooperate with Farm Bureau Women and print a Recipe Corner each week for Michigan products.

Isabella County Women met at the Broomfield Townhall with 9 groups represented. Delegates and alternates were appointed for the State annual meeting. Committees were appointed.

Midland County Women's Committee met at the home of their chairman, Mrs. Osborn Thurlow. The ladies toured the Bintz Fruit Orchard, Apple Tree Shop and Cedar Mill, just south of Freeland.

Saginaw County Women were served pot luck dinner by the Pioneer group with 47 in attendance.

Mrs. Markle, wife of the President of Saginaw County College, was honored at tea. Our group place in the Health Poster Contest.

Our Women's Committee earned \$118.94 on the supper served to members at the annual County Farm Bureau meeting.

District 9

Mrs. Oliver Tompkins, Chairman
Traverse City R-1

"My heart's in the Highlands—A" chasing the deer." I have just returned from Paradise—

The Home Flower Garden

Interesting Events and Plants in the Holy Land

Editor's Note — Mr. H. L. R. Chapman saw active service in World War I. He joined the British Army in October, 1914 and did not obtain his release from military service until March, 1919. His regiment, the Queen's Westminster Rifles, saw action in France, 1915-1916; in Salonika, 1916-1917; and in Palestine, 1917-1918.

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estine especially in the rocky, dry areas is the Carob. This tree belongs to the pea family and has been cultivated in the Mediterranean countries for thousands of years. It is sometimes called the locust bean and constitutes the "locusts" eaten by the prodigal son in his wanderings.

The tree produces an abundance of fruit, the eight inch seed pods when dried being second only to the date fruit in food value. The groundnut seeds yield a highly nutritious meal known as carob flour. Several bakeries in this country are now making a bread which contains about 25 per cent carob flour.

South of Jaffa—Joppa of the Bible — are many flourishing orange groves. Jaffa was created for the port for Jerusalem in the days of Solomon and has remained such to this day.

Far to the north in the Lebanon and Taurus mountains grow the ancient "Cedars of Lebanon." When fully grown these trees are objects of great beauty and suggest great age. Old trees often reach a height of 100 feet.

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Upper Peninsula—and am convinced those deer run awful fast. We saw many, but not the shooting kind.

Benzie County Women's Committee met at Hermie Rockwell's. That was one of the good fall days and I enjoyed meeting with them. This group keeps in close touch with the church in its work with the migrant workers, a phase of our present society we know too little about. We reviewed the annual meeting and the ACCW Conference in Scotland.

Kalkaska County outlined its program at Thelma Odierne's. Phebe Cotton reported on the Association for Rural Education. Their lobbyist works in conjunction with Stanley Powell. School centralization was the topic.

Manistee County women met with the River Road Group. The safety chairman, Mrs. Valencourt, outlined a safety program pertaining to dangerous roads. Mrs. Hommel had attended a civil defense meeting and gave information regarding "fall-out."

Missaukee County, Mrs. Lea Sundell reporting, says that her mother, Mrs. Pauline Leshar of Lake City, Michigan, and a former county chairman is not well and likes to get cards. This group sent a full delegation to the annual meeting.

Northwest Michigan women enjoyed slides presented by Miss Ruth Wysong which she took of the UN in a recent visit. Mrs. Schmuckel is a member of the medical care auxiliary and a committee has been set up to assist in the kitchen furnishings.

Wexford County. Mrs. Freeman reporting, have decided upon meeting the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. Marj Karker was their guest speaker and showed slides of the Edinburgh Conference. A get-together has been arranged when baskets of fruit and gifts will be prepared for Xmas gifts.

District 10E

Mrs. Lee S. LaForge, Chairman
Curran

Our District Meeting was held October 29 with 94 ladies present. Lee Richardson from the Secretary of State's office spoke regarding auto and drivers' licenses. Michigan is the 7th in the number of automobile licenses issued. Gov. Sleeper had the first driver's license in 1921.

Four counties in our District have participated in the Cancer Cytology program this year and close to 2,000 women had the examination. One county is working to have a doctor locate in their county. Two counties gave assistance in the way of clothing and new articles for the Traverse City Hospital and their own old folks' homes.

We attended the ACWW meeting in Edinburgh through talks by Mrs. Tompkins, Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Karker.

Mrs. Vernon Kingsbury, the retiring chairman, was presented with a lovely sweater at the close of the meeting.

Twelve ladies attended the officers training session in Glenzie. The quiz about Farm Bureau was especially interesting.

Alpena County. Mrs. Gail McDonald, safety chairman, stressed the great value in tetanus shots.

Five students participated in the poster contest "Food for Fitness." \$10 was given to the winner, Darlene Rouleau.

The ladies decided to continue sending Christmas gifts to Traverse City State Hospital. Two polio patients are to be remembered with gifts.

Next meeting to be at the Wellington Hall. The county chairman is Mrs. Walter Dant.

Josco County. The November meeting was the exchange of cooking recipes. This proved very interesting. Reports were given by Mrs. Lloyd Little on legislation, Mrs. Harold Siegrist on information, Mrs. Goldie Blust on safety and Mrs. Blanche Cobb on citizenship. Mrs. Irene Lorenz is county chairman.

Ogemaw County. We invited husbands and friends to the meeting to hear Hoy Dewey, field man for the Agriculture Stabilization Committee, speak about the government agricultural program.

Nedra Lehman, our treasurer, reported we earned \$171.39 from the Hereford Sale with "pie donations" still coming. Mrs. Edna Kenyon is County Chairman.

Presque Isle ladies have completed a first aid course with Mr. Haselhurst and Mr. Pollock as instructors. A gift of cuff links and tie clasp will be given them in appreciation.

The Evergreen Group visited the Wenzel Home in November. Groups take turns visiting this home for elderly people and they all enjoy the visit each month. Our County Chairman is Mrs. Herman Ristow.

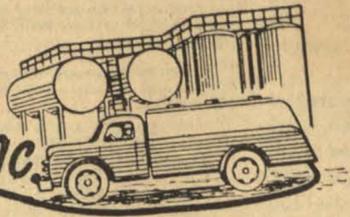
District 11

Mrs. Ken Corey, Chairman
Stephenson R-1

District 11 annual meeting was held October



Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.



4000 NORTH GRAND RIVER • LANSING 4, MICHIGAN
TELEPHONE IV-7-5911

To Farm Bureau Members:

I wish that somehow it would be possible for me to visit with each of you personally. If it were possible, I would explain exactly what this Farm Bureau Oil Company has done since it started—and more important what we can do for you. For example:

First let's take *Quality*. Just five years ago, total dollar sales were \$4,500,000. This past year it was over \$7,716,000. This is an increase of over 60 percent. Surely no company could compile such an impressive sales growth unless its products stand up to the highest quality specifications.

How about *Service*? I am sure you will agree with me that while quality products were necessary to achieve the above growth, service was also a great factor. Dependable, friendly, service I mean. The above sales growth does not only imply quality and service, but it is testimony that Farmers Petroleum sells good products and gives good service.

Savings? Certainly. Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. is in the process now of distributing over \$293,000 in cash patronage refunds to its stockholders. Each year since it was organized, cash patronage refunds have been made. This year they are the highest yet. The continued rise in farm operation costs is not news to you. However cutting the cost is always good news. Farm Bureau through its subsidiary—Farmers Petroleum—can cut your petroleum costs.

Service, Quality, and Savings. Aren't these what you are interested in? It is exactly what this cooperative can offer you. How about it? May Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. serve you?

Sincerely,

FARMERS PETROLEUM COOPERATIVE, INC.

Thomas Koning

Thomas Koning, President

P.S. I would be most happy to send you a copy of Farmers Petroleum's current Annual Report which contains in detail this year's operations, at your request.

Farm Bureau's Resolutions on State Affairs

They Outline the Program for 1960

We present the resolutions on state affairs adopted at the 40th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau at East Lansing, Nov. 9-10-11, 1959. The resolutions are Farm Bureau policy and program for 1960.

Resolutions were adopted also on national affairs. They become recommendations to the American Farm Bureau resolutions committee and to voting delegates representing Michigan at the AFBF convention to be held at Chicago, Dec. 14-17.

The resolutions approved by the AFBF convention become Michigan Farm Bureau's policy on national matters.

We expect that that text of the national resolutions will appear in your copy of the Nation's Agriculture January 1.

Another section of the MFB resolutions deals with resolutions for the good of the Michigan Farm Bureau organization. The News plans to publish them soon. Here are the resolutions on state affairs:

State Constitution

For the reasons stated in detail in our resolution one year ago we oppose holding a constitutional convention for the purpose of carrying out a general revision of our State constitution. We feel that submitting any proposed amendments to the voters for individual consideration is a far more intelligent and satisfactory way of making any changes which the people favor. We therefore oppose any effort to hold a Con-Con.

We further oppose any constitutional amendment which would provide for the calling of a constitutional convention by a simple majority of the votes cast upon the question itself, rather than by the majority of all voters participating in the election as presently provided.

We also oppose any change in the method of selecting delegates to any such convention which might be held in the future.

Reapportionment

We believe that the present Constitutional provisions relative to Senatorial and Representative districts, as embodied in the "Balanced Legislature" amendment adopted by the voters in 1952, are fair to all sections of the State and should be retained.

We oppose any proposal to elect members of the State Senate solely on the basis of population, without regard to any other considerations. Electing both Senators and Representatives on a population basis would turn over complete control of the Legislature to a very few counties in one corner of the State, and in effect create what would be equivalent to a unicameral Legislature.

State Financial Crisis

There is no question that our State is in a serious financial crisis and new sources of revenue must be found.

The State must live within its income or go bankrupt. Unlike the Federal Government, it cannot issue its own currency. Services demanded and needed by the people cost money. Once a service has been authorized, inflation, natural population growth, and other factors tend to cause the expense to grow from year to year. All Government units again should be charged with the responsibility

of effecting all possible economies. The solving of this problem is most complex.

Recent fiscal history shows that increasing costs of government have been met in Michigan by "stop-gap" and "temporary" taxes that were levied without considering the State tax program as a whole. We feel that the long-time solution lies in a re-structuring of State taxes. We believe that thought should be given to the following:

1. Revenue sources should be given a broad and equitable base. In a day when State and local taxes were absorbing 3% or 4% of Michigan's income, little hardship was suffered despite an irrational tax structure. But when the ratio of these taxes to income approaches 10%, as it now does, the structure must follow a rational pattern.

2. The tax structure should be conducive to economic growth in Michigan.

3. The tax structure should provide enough potential revenue to enable the financing of the State's needs, liquidate the mounting deficit within a reasonable period of time, and give proper recognition to the needs of the various units of government, including the State, counties, municipalities, and school districts.

4. The tax structure should be rational, flexible and relatively simple to administer.

Any proposal to increase the sales tax or to levy an income tax should be submitted to a vote of the people.

We oppose any effort to circumvent the 15-mill limitation on property, such as a specific tax on property for State purposes.

Sales Tax Exemption

A basic principle of Michigan's Sales Tax law is that purchases of equipment and supplies used and consumed in industrial processing and agricultural production are exempt transactions.

This avoids double taxation. The principle involved is that this tax should be applied only once. Hence, if something is to be used in the production of an article which is to be sold subject to the tax, purchase of that equipment and supplies should be on an exempt basis. Present day farming is a form

of industrial processing and certainly is entitled to the same tax treatment as any other type of industry.

In farming as it is now carried on, agricultural implements and other equipment are just as essential as are such production supplies as feed, seed, fertilizer, insecticides, etc. They are used and consumed in the production of products which are later to be sold subject to the retail Sales Tax.

The present exemption basis is logical and defensible and should be retained.

Voting on Increasing Millage

Section 4 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Michigan reads as follows:

"Whenever any question is submitted to a vote of the electors which involves the direct expenditure of public money or the issue of bonds, only such persons having the qualifications of electors who have property assessed for taxes in any part of the district or territory to be affected by the result of such election or the lawful husbands or wives of such persons shall be entitled to vote thereon."

We recommend broadening this section to include also voting on increasing the general property millage limitation as provided by the 15 mill amendment to the Constitution.

The same objective might be attained by amending Section 21 of Article X by specifying the qualifications for voting to increase the permissible millage rate.

Annexation Procedure

One of the most serious threats confronting farm owners in some sections of the State is that of becoming rather helplessly involved in annexation procedures which would place their property within the far-flung municipal limits of some overly ambitious city or village.

Many farmers are finding their property tax burdens almost confiscatory as a result of being taken into an enlarged school district with an expanding budget. A high tax rate multiplied by a large assessment of a sizable and well-equipped farm frequently results in a school tax burden which siphons off much of the receipts of the farming enterprise.

The situation becomes doubly serious when such a farm is absorbed into a city or village and has to pay added taxes for various municipal services which it may not receive and doesn't desire or doesn't need.

Many cities and villages are continuing to grow and from time to time should absorb property being used for industrial, business and residential purposes. However, the steadfast position of the Farm Bureau in matters of this sort is that of opposition to the inclusion of land which is being used solely for agricultural purposes in such annexation projects.

There are at present several laws under which annexation proceedings are carried out. Frequently the boundaries of annexation projects are cleverly drawn to include property which should not be taken into the municipality but which involve in other portions of the project enough voters to carry the proposal.

We believe that territory to be eligible for annexation should be contiguous to the city or village to which it is proposed to be annexed, and that not less than one-sixth of the aggregate external boundaries of the territory should coincide with existing boundaries of the municipality to



County Farm Bureaus Win Membership Awards

which it is proposed to be annexed, and that the boundaries which are not adjacent to the annexing municipality should be as regular as practicable and embrace a compact area.

The registered electors in the area to be annexed should have an opportunity to vote separately on the proposition of annexation. If the territory involved falls in more than one township, the votes from the persons residing in the involved portions of each township should be counted separately, and the proposal should not carry unless the vote carries in each township directly affected by the proposal.

Present laws relative to annexation, incorporation and consolidation are confusing and conflicting and should be entirely rewritten. Also, the law permitting the disconnection of purely farm land from cities and villages should be made more workable.

Research Extension

We feel that the future economic position of agriculture will depend, to a large extent, on research in the production and

especially in the marketing and utilization of farm products.

We urge that most of the resources available for agricultural research be expended in improving the quality of farm products, promoting the profitable marketing thereof, and seeking new industrial uses and outlets for farm products now in surplus. The new truths discovered through agricultural research are of little value until they are brought to the attention of farmers and made available for use in agricultural production, processing, marketing and utilization.

We urge the Legislature to continue the financial support necessary to keep Michigan farmers competitive with our neighboring states.

Dairy Research At Lake City

In view of the fact that dairying is the most important single part of the farming industry in northern Michigan, and with an ever-increasing emphasis on efficiency, we believe there is a very definite need for some work to be done in the area in the development of new ideas and

techniques.

We recommend that a committee be established to study the possibility and feasibility of carrying out this work at the Lake City Experiment Station. We believe this project could best be promoted by an advisory committee comprised of people from each county in the area with the help of the Commodity Department of Michigan Farm Bureau.

Commendation To The Governor

We wish to commend our Governor for his proclamation of Co-op Month in Michigan.

Our farmer co-operatives have rendered a great service to Michigan farmers throughout the years. They have helped us to cut our farming costs, established credit operations and aided us vastly in our marketing programs. In his recognition of farmer co-operatives, our Governor has recognized the importance of farming among Michigan industries.

Mental Health

Mental health needs continue to be pressing problems for Michigan. We currently have about 34,000 of our citizens who are afflicted with a mental illness. It is estimated that about 10% of our population will at some time have some type of mental illness. We believe that an adequate budget should be provided for the proper care of these patients.

One of the most pressing needs is a new facility for the care of children. We deplore the fact that currently about 500 children are in the same wards with adults.

We urge that additional consideration be given to establishing more facilities to handle outpatients at clinics. If such facilities and suitable staff were provided, it could relieve some of the pressure for permanent facilities.

We are disturbed at the rising trend of delinquency, crime and vandalism in the youth of our nation.

We believe that more drastic controls are needed to curb the sale of intoxicants, narcotics, immoral literature and dangerous weapons which now have become easily obtained by young people in many of our stores and mail order concerns.

We strongly appeal to television program directors and to editors of popular magazines to remove from their broadcasts and their pages presentations dealing with violence, immorality, intoxication and the inordinate concern for sex which has become so commonly presented to the children and adults of America.

We hold that good entertainment can be presented whose purpose it is to build constructively toward a moral and Christian America. Our nation cannot afford to become morally weak and degenerate. On the contrary, we should stand as a symbol of moral and spiritual strength to the rest of the world.

Civil Defense

All citizens have a responsibility to be alert and ready for any unusually destructive occasion. This could be in the form of an enemy attack or a severe storm. We believe that there should be a continuous educational program pointing out the survival needs for families in cases of emergency.

We repeat our previous requests that the deductible millage rate be placed at four mills, and that the gross allowance be raised proportionately with an aim to providing some degree of equality of educational opportunity for children in the rural-suburban areas of Michigan.

MFB Resolutions on State Affairs will be continued in our edition for January 1, 1960.

Women's Committees of Districts 1-2-4-5 are planning Spring Camp for Farm Bureau women of those Districts March 8 and 9 at Wesley Woods, at Clear Lake, 12 miles north of Battle Creek.

All Farm Bureau women of those Districts are invited.

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Protects valuable rug, polished floors from mud and snow. Nylon bristles remove mud, snow, ice, glass cuttings from sides of shoes or boots—the ONLY shoe scraper that cleans both sides and fits in one clean sweep! Easily installed by pushing into grooves along walls or porches.

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New Cars Ride In Style The shiny new '60 cars you've seen appearing in show rooms all over Michigan—know how they got there? 85% of the new automobiles the country over travel by motor carrier from factory to dealer—and this applies pretty well to Michigan... That's only part of the story of how much the automobile industry depends on trucks. The basic materials, the parts and accessories—everything that goes into the manufacture of automobiles—travels most if not all the way from source to destination by truck... So, you see, cars just couldn't be turned out in today's volume—or get to their destination as quickly—if it weren't for the direct, dock-to-door service truck transport provides.

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Upper Peninsula Takes Membership and Community Awards

UPPER PENINSULA County Farm Bureaus did very well when honors for membership work were given at the 40th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

MACKINAC - LUCE had three 1st place awards—For highest pct. of goal Jan. 15, for membership maintenance, for highest per cent over goal. Community Farm Bureau a-

wards: CHIPPEWA for highest attendance; IRON for greatest increase in number of groups; DELTA for best ratio—one group for every eight members.

"When government becomes the master, freedom dies."

Civil Defense All citizens have a responsibility

Where Should We Place Blame for Inflation?

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for December

Background Material for Program in December by Our 1620 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

Right often I hear someone say, "Why, just about everyone is against inflation!"

"Whoa-up, Man! Better take a closer look!" Lots of folks are against the rising cost of living. They brow-beat the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker — and the farmer. But the fact is, — rising prices are a result rather than the cause of inflation.

Very often, the same people who protest against rising prices are the same ones guilty of boosting inflation itself. If you ask, "How can that be?" I will admit that it is a fair question. But stating the truth may hurt. You may be one of those guilty and not realize it. This is so because the real causes of inflation lie beneath the surface of modern American living.

An iceberg floats in the water. The mass of its bulk is below the surface and cannot be seen. Inflation is like an iceberg. All you see are the rising prices. You do not see what makes prices continue to mount upward.

Price Controls No Remedy. Since prices are only the result — and not the cause — of inflation, government price fixing does not cure the condition. You cannot get rid of a cold by taking aspirin. You just feel better for awhile. To cure the cold, you have to lick the virus. This is the same with using price controls to stop inflation. Getting rid of the symptoms won't do it.

In fact, price controls can be very unfair. They spike the incomes of some businessmen, yet do nothing to stop the rising costs of operation. Businessmen then face a cost-price squeeze and may go bankrupt. Farmers have found out how this works!

The Hidden Cause

Well, if prices are not the cause of inflation, just what does cause it? The answer may be disturbing!

People—the citizens of America—are to blame for inflation!

Intentionally or unintentionally, they do things to bring it on themselves.

The United States has become a nation of citizen pressure groups. Pressure groups exist to benefit themselves for the most part. They seek benefits often without regard to the impact on others or the welfare of the nation and its future. Organized groups include labor unions, farmers, teachers, businessmen, and many forms of local government from villages to states.

The place to which they direct their pressure is the Federal government. When people cannot (or would rather not) take care of their own wants today they use their pressure group to "shake down the money tree" at Washington.

I guess Coxe's Army was one of the first to make a march on Washington. Today marches on the Capitol Building have become a popular national sport. Their war cry is, "Get it from the Federal government, and it won't cost us anything!"

Of course, that idea is 100% pure hogwash. He who believes it just doesn't see the hidden part of the iceberg,—or is playing "ostrich."

The results of the "Federal-Aid-To-Everything" programs are hidden. But their cost to the nation and its people are far-reaching, and even point to national bankruptcy. The trend can continue until a dollar will not buy a lollipop!

The Power Behind Inflation

Pressure groups of all kinds are asking for municipal housing, sewer systems, hospitals, roads and highways, airports, schools, guaranteed incomes, pensions, unemployment compensation, business tax exemptions, farm support prices, foreign aid, defense, — an endless parade of demands.

Many of these pressure groups ask, "Keep inflation in check, BUT GIVE US WHAT WE WANT!" It cannot be done!

Members of Congress want to stay in office. They do so by

Discussion Topics

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

- Jan. The Legal Liabilities of Farmers.
- Feb. School Reorganization Issues in Michigan.
- Mar. What a Farmer Stands to Lose by a Farm Accident.

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.

votes. They seek to satisfy as many voters as possible. They try to give the citizens what they are requesting. If the citizens ask for too much—well, many in Congress will find a way to give it to them anyway!

The groups with the strongest political strength make the strongest demands. Labor has become the most powerful political pressure group. But plenty of other groups climb on the same bandwagon and ask for Federal handouts. Everyone demands his share of the so-called "free cash."

Debt

So, Congress passes appropriations right and left. Spending mounts beyond tax income. Taxes are boosted as high as the people will tolerate them—and then some other gimmick must pick up the rest of the load.

Of course, the first result of overspending is debt. Money appropriated for Federal programs by Congress has exceeded tax revenues by \$10 billion to \$15 billion annually for some years past. Congress periodically raises the permitted limit of the national debt.

But there is a way out. Laws are passed to make this debt "bearable." Step number one is the printing of government bonds. These bonds are a form of promissory note, however, and the debt still exists,—plus interest. But the bonds open the door to escape.

Banks accept these bonds as having cash value. The faith and credit of the nation is behind them. Yet, there is actually a diminishing amount of gold in reserve to support them. They could not be paid off in full with hard cash. The amount of gold behind each dollar decreases.

Add to this fact a growing loss in the U.S. gold reserves. We have lost \$2 billion in gold within the past year alone, and we are still losing it. People of other nations formerly hoarded U.S. dollars as security. Now they demand payment in gold. They are smart. The gold will go up in value,—the dollar will go down.

Ballooning Inflation

Another step in Federal finance really serves to water down the dollar. It consists in credit expansion.

The Federal government can, of course, print bonds in any quantity without having hard cash behind them. These bonds are sold, either to individuals or to the commercial banks.

When commercial banks purchase the bonds, more inflationary hocus-pocus takes place. The bonds can be deposited by the bank in the Federal Reserve system for a small payment. They become part of the "reserves" of the commercial bank.

For every dollar the commercial bank adds to its reserves, it is permitted to lend six dollars. This expanded credit pushes more dollars into the economy, — unsupported by gold or hard cash. The result is inflationary.

But the practice is also carried out by the Federal Reserve Banks. If they actively seek to buy bonds on the open market and get them they can add them to their own reserves—and increase their lending powers by six dollars for every dollar in reserve. Here are some of the tap roots of the inflationary mushroom.

This extra money in circulation forces prices to rise, and the value of the dollar drops steadily. Consumers pay the shot over the counter. Farmers pay in rising costs of machinery and supplies. The dollar hits the skids on the international market.

Monetizing the Debt

This sleight-of-hand with bonds and credit is called by the Federal money magicians and economic planners by the fancy name of "monetizing the debt." The real garden variety of name for it is "inflation." You don't see it happen. Your eye is on the price tag. Again,—it is the hidden part of the iceberg.

But it forces people to pay

the dollar dropping rapidly in value, it becomes a question whether we gain or lose in purchasing power from the date we buy them to the time we redeem them.

With money values on the skids, people tend to put their savings into real property and saleable objects. Even these things could become hard to sell in a galloping inflation. Folks might find it hard to get enough dollars to pay the high price. Remember the German marks after World War I? They were scarcely worth the paper on which they were printed!

Taxes Do Go Up!

Inflation boosts the costs of operation for state and local governments. To meet expenses these governments have to seek new forms of tax. Look at Michigan! Most of the states are in similar trouble.

Wages and salaries have to be scaled up to keep people abreast of rising living costs. But the level at which people become subject to income tax remains fixed. So more people get on the tax rolls, or get boosted to higher brackets. So, in more ways than one, the people do pay the fiddler.

We, the People

The effects of inflation are endless and world-wide. American dollars are losing value. American tourists pay a bonus of 6% when visiting Canada. We used to have the advantage.

Our high prices are causing foreign nations to look elsewhere for goods. We are losing our export trade to England, Germany, Japan and Russia. People say, "Let's protect ourselves with tariffs!"

But this is only slamming the door tighter. It would add to our

surpluses, lead to unemployment and create international ill will. It could be the road to war.

Who is to blame for the pickle we are in? Let's look in the mirror. There we can see our American citizens with hand outstretched toward Washington and a Federal aid demand on their lips.

Do you object to inflation?

Questions

1. If you consider that every demand for Federal aid in any form promotes a rising inflation, what programs do you still insist that the government should pay for?

2. Should the United States continue a program which will mean a loss of our gold reserves to other nations? Why or why not?

3. Why would your group favor or oppose a continually rising inflation?

Dr. Wesley F. Buchele, Michigan State University agricultural engineer, has been granted a patent on a revolutionary type of threshing machine for separating grain from straw. A completely new threshing principle is used in the design.

Roll Call Speaker



WILLIAM ALEXANDER, area field service director for the American Farm Bureau Federation for the Midwestern Region, will speak to Michigan Farm Bureau Roll Call managers at their meeting at Michigan State University Monday noon, December 28.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
8 December 1, 1959

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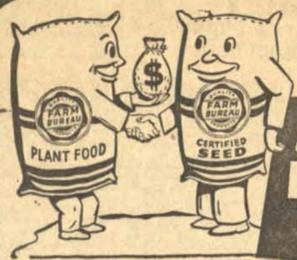
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a pause to express...
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