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Science

AFBF Directors Oppose Kennedy Farm Program

The American Farm Bureau Board of Directors said March 16 that the President Kennedy's farm program offered Congress that day would lead to a regimented agriculture.

The Board of Directors meeting in Chicago said the Kennedy administration proposals would lead to lower per family net farm income, inefficient farm production, higher prices to consumers, and an increased burden on taxpayers.

The AFBF directors also said the proposed farm program is a bid for power to regiment segments of agriculture that are not now under government controls. (See article on this page, President's Proposed Farm Bill.)

Following is the American Farm Bureau Board of Directors' statement:

"We commend the President for his clear recognition of the contribution farmers are making through the efficient production of food and fiber for domestic consumption and export.

"We agree that many farmers are not now receiving adequate financial rewards for their productive efforts.

"The President's desire to make constructive use of our agricultural abundance, to improve farm income, and to reduce the costs of farm programs is commendable.

"However, major proposals outlined by the President in his message are inconsistent with these goals.

"The proposed Agricultural Enabling Amendments Act of 1961 is a warmed-over version of the Brannan plan for compensatory payments and the Poage bill of last year, both of which have been overwhelmingly rejected by past Congresses.

"At the present time, most farm commodities are free of government production and marketing controls. The commodities that have been the least affected by such programs are the ones that are in the healthiest condition today.

"The proposed Enabling Act is a bid for power to regiment the segments of agriculture that are not now under government controls. The result would be lower per family net farm income, inefficient production, higher prices to consumers, and an increased burden on taxpayers.

"The proposal to delegate responsibility for the formulation of farm programs to commodity

committees on a commodity-by-commodity basis assumes that each commodity stands alone when, in fact, all are interrelated.

"This proposal also takes from Congress its historic power to legislate and gives it only a limited opportunity to veto proposed plans.

"The Congress should retain the power to determine the major provisions of farm programs as it is the only body where all of the affected people have representation.

"Considerable progress has been made in some commodities under the Agricultural Act of 1958.

"There is urgent need for new farm legislation to help farmers adjust the production of wheat and feed grains to current market requirements.

"Instead of setting up machinery for the establishment of production quotas in terms of pounds, bushels, bales, cows, sows and hens, the Congress should face up to the wheat and feed grain problem—a problem which has been aggravated by past control programs.

"Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment Program which is pending in Congress would help farmers adjust grain production to current needs by retiring cropland and expanding markets.

"It also would protect farmers from the market depressing effect of cut rate sales of government-held farm surplus stocks.

"Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment Program should be given early consideration."

See related article on page 6, President Signs Feed Grain Law.

orders, compensatory payments, and supply programs developed by committees of farmers on a commodity-by-commodity basis—were included in the original version of the Poage supply control and direct payments bill of 1960.

A modified version of the Poage bill was rejected by the House of Representatives June 23, 1960 by a vote of 171 yeas and 236 nays.

In addition to proposals for price support and adjustment legislation, President Kennedy called for expanded school lunch and school milk programs, extension and expansion of the Agricultural Trade Development Act (P.L. 480), increased research, special program for low income areas, expansion of soil conservation programs.

AFBF States Need For Mexican Help

American agriculture needs the services of Mexican nationals as migratory farm labor, the American Farm Bureau advised the House Agricultural Committee at Washington in March.

The AFBF said that some Congressmen and others who oppose the use of Mexican nationals as farm workers in the U.S. are in effect calling for an increase in the number of domestic migratory workers.

Matt Triggs of AFBF explained that Mexican workers are needed in agriculture even when there is substantial partial employment among domestic farm workers.

Even though there may be unemployed farm workers during the winter, there can still be a major shortage in fall and other harvest times, he said.

Mr. Triggs said the number of Mexican national migrants has declined in recent years and their incomes and working conditions have improved.

This Edition 72,080 copies of the Michigan Farm News were mailed to subscribers.



Gavels Presented to County Presidents at Statewide Insurance Meeting

MFB PRESIDENT Walter Wightman (2nd from left) presented gavels to Presidents Elmer Miller, Montcalm county; Guy Homan, Oceana; Lewis Crane, Mecosta; John Morgan, Osceola; Niles Vermillion (left) administrative vice-president, Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, presided. See related article on this page.

Vote "NO" on Proposal No. 1 On April 3rd Ballot

1. A Constitutional Convention is not necessary to make any changes in our Constitution which are desired by the voters.
2. Needed changes can be made by amendment. Michigan's Constitution has been modernized through 69 amendments adopted by voters.
3. Amendments are presented individually so that voters can ballot on each proposed change instead of on a "pig in a poke" basis.
4. A Con-Con could, and probably would be controlled by a "bloc" vote of a simple majority of the voters in only 7 of Michigan's 83 counties.

5. A Con-Con would cost taxpayers an estimated \$3,500,000 plus additional costs in chaos, confusion, and uncertainty. It would require two special state-wide elections.
6. No provision unable to win support of a majority of voters on its own merit should be "smuggled" into our Constitution as a part of a large "package."
7. A minority of the voters at the election April 3 may force a Con-Con on Michigan citizens.
8. Your Michigan Constitution is your protection against unwise, unfair legislation.

Farm Bureau Opposes Holding Con-Con

Eleven Congressmen Introduce FB Cropland Adj. Bills

Bills providing for Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment program have been introduced in the House of Representatives in Congress by 11 Congressmen from both parties, and including several members of the House Agriculture Committee.

The Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment program proposes to remove the basic and continuing cause of low farm income by starting an immediate reduction of the agricultural plant which will (1) better fit farm output to market needs (2) open the way for an orderly disposal of accumulated government stocks.

These Representatives offered bills on Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment program: Robert Chipenfield (R) of Illinois, Frank Clark (D) and Paul Dague (R) of Pennsylvania, Harlan Hagen (D) of California, Ralph Harvey (R) of Indiana, Delbert Latta (R) of Ohio, Clifford McIntire (R) of Maine, Harold McSweeney (D) of Louisiana, Charles Teague (R) of California, Fred Schwengel (R) and James Bromwell (R) both of Iowa.

The bills introduced all provide for Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment program, with these major provisions:

1. A voluntary acreage retirement program for producers of all crops.
2. Retirement of a percentage of a farm's total cropland as a condition of eligibility for price support on wheat, corn, grain sorghum, rye, oats, barley, soybeans.
3. Adjustment payments in cash or in kind. For payments in kind, emphasis on care to minimize disturbance of the market price for grain.
4. A new wheat price support plan whereby the national level of support for wheat would be

comparable to the national level for corn after adjustment for differences in weight per bushel, nutritive value, buyer preference, and supply-demand condition.

The AFBF Crop Land Adjustment program was described in the Michigan Farm News for March 1, page 7.

Six Senators Offer FB Cropland Bill

Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, introduced the Farm Bureau's Cropland Adjustment bill in the Senate in early March as Senate Bill 1246.

Five other Senators joined Senator Hickenlooper in sponsoring the bill: Senators Frank Lausche of Ohio, Everett Dirksen of Illinois, Jack Miller of Iowa, John S. Cooper of Kentucky, and Wallace F. Bennett of Utah.

Vander Meulen with AFBF Trade Corp.

Everett Vander Meulen, formerly of Michigan, has been appointed assistant director of the Farm Bureau Trade Development Corporation. He will assist H. H. Alp, managing director.

The appointment was announced by President Charles Shuman of the American Farm Bureau Federation. For the past eight years Mr. Vander Meulen has been managing director of the Calapproved Seed Growers Ass'n, an affiliate of the California Farm Bureau. Mr. Vander Meulen is a former resident of Missaukee county, and a graduate of the College of Agriculture at Michigan State University. He has a master's degree in plant breeding from MSU.

Less Cropland

More acreage is being taken out of crop production yearly by expanding cities and towns and roads than is being added by irrigation and drainage programs.

FB Insurance Honors County Presidents

Farm Bureau insurance agents and their wives, County Farm Bureau presidents and their wives, county secretaries and their husbands, and members of the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors and their wives attended the 1961 Farm Bureau Insurance Companies' Statewide meeting at Lansing February 24. More than 500 were present.

A special event on the program was the presentation of beautiful gavels to County Farm Bureau presidents who were present. The gavels are to be kept in the county and passed on to succeeding presidents. The gavels were inscribed "Working Together."

County presidents who were recognized at the meeting and received gavels were Harold Shannon, Cass county; Francis Bingham, Kalamazoo; T. J. Rosevelt, Van Buren; Lloyd Smith, Calhoun; George Crisenberry, Jackson; Melvin Rodesier, Lenawee, Thomas G. Sharpe, Livingston; Joa Penzien, Macomb; Merrill R. Smith, Monroe; James Sayre, Wayne; Ralph Moore, Barry; Forrest Squires, Kent; and Clinton Peterson, Ottawa.

Presidents Robert Reese, Jr., Clinton; Leslie G. Ames, Genesee; Ernest Miller, Huron; Donald Travis, Lapeer; Clifton Lotter, Tuscola; Elmer Miller, Montcalm; Guy Homan, Oceana; Lewis Crane, Mecosta; John Morgan, Osceola; Lloyd Shankel, Gratiot; Donald Sandbrook, Isabella; and Willard Wangler, Ogemaw.

Gavels were presented to Walter Wightman, Michigan Farm Bureau president; Dale Dunckel, president of Farm Bureau Life; and newly elected president of Farm Bureau Mutual, Elton Smith. Each acknowledged the

presentation with a brief statement.

Appearing on the Statewide Meeting program were N. L. Vermillion, administrative vice-president; Bruce Ruggles, Farm Bureau "Cooperator of the Year" for 1960; Pete Sackett, Kalamazoo county agency manager; Russel H. Moore, advanced Life Consultant; and Joe Burger from Pasadena, California.

The Company's Pace Setter Life Trophy went to agent Norman Lohr of Monroe county, and the Top Agency Life Trophy was presented to Bob Acker, Isabella - Midland agency manager.

Roland Nelson, Huron county agent, received the Farm Bureau Distinguished Sales Award for 1960.

MFB Affiliate

Invites Pickle Growers to Organize

One of the first activities of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, the new affiliate of the Michigan Farm Bureau, is a membership campaign now going on for pickling cucumber growers.

Michigan pickle growers are showing considerable interest in organizing their bargaining and marketing power on a voluntary, non-governmental basis within the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association.

A series of meetings are being held throughout the state. All pickling cucumber growers have been invited to the meetings and encouraged to join the Association.

Pickle producers interested in such an organization and have not attended any of the meetings may learn about the Association by contacting Noel W. Stuckman of the Market Development Division at the Michigan Farm Bureau, 4000 N. Grand River Ave., P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan.

Time is Short In Legislature

Many Bills of Great Interest to Farmers Are in Committee And Face Deadlines

STANLEY M. POWELL

Legislative Counsel, Michigan Farm Bureau

April will undoubtedly be the most important month in the legislative session. Just prior to March 17, which was the deadline for introduction of all bills except tax and appropriation measures, bills were dumped into the legislative hoppers by the hundreds. There are now a total of 1,062 bills and 41 proposed constitutional amendments.

Between the printing of the last of those proposals and April 7, which is the final day for reporting all bills from Committee in the House of origin, the time is very limited.

Another self-imposed deadline will come on April 14, which is the final day for passage of bills in the House of origin. April 28 will be the last day for Committees to report bills originating in the other House. These, and one or two more deadlines, lead up to completing the main part of the current session on May 12. Then there would be a recess to allow for printing the enrolled bills and permitting the Governor to sign or veto them. Final adjournment has been scheduled for noon, June 9.

The Legislative Committee and The Board of Directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau have spent many hours studying pending bills and comparing them with Farm Bureau policies as laid down by the voting delegates. This will guide the officials and staff, members of County Farm Bureau Legislative Committees and Minutemen in their efforts to bring about passage or defeat of pending bills.

With tax receipts falling substantially below Governor Swainson's predicted state revenue, the appropriating committees of the Legislature are feeling quite conservative. Obviously, state departments, institutions and aid programs will receive far smaller appropriations than they have requested.

Starting any new program which doesn't have a built-in self-financing feature seems rather improbable.

Farm Bureau members are interested in this situation because the Farm Bureau has advocated a unified program of dairy inspections and the ante mortem and post mortem inspection of meat and had hoped that both of these services which are directly of benefit to consumers might be financed from the State's General Fund. As already indicated, that now looks very dubious.

Dairy Inspections. Meanwhile, there is legislation proposed which would transfer to the State Health Department the dairy inspections and the inspection of food service establishments.

As this is written, here is the status of a few of the bills which are of great interest to Farm Bureau folks:

Christmas Trees. H.8 to discourage the stealing of Christmas trees from roadside and private and public land was passed by the House and is now pending in the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

Seal of Quality. Another bill pending in that Committee is S. 1264 which would establish a Seal of Quality for agricultural products. This would be on a voluntary and self-supporting basis and there is no reason why it should not be enacted this year unless the 22 Republican Senators should turn against it because it is sponsored by 5 of their Democratic colleagues.

That would be a poor basis for evaluating the worth of a bill which has been for years supported by all the general farm organizations and by many commodity groups which would like to use its provisions in the more profitable marketing of their products.

Over in the House Committee

Goldwater Defines Conservation

Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona spoke to the Michigan State University Conservative Club and 3,000 guests at the University Auditorium March 7.

Senator Goldwater defined a conservative as one interested in making progress based on known and proven values and experiences from the past.

on Agriculture there are quite a grist of bills included among which are the following:

Potato Promotion. H.37 would establish a promotional program for the potato industry on a self-financing basis.

Meat Inspection. H.282 would provide for the inspection of slaughterhouses and meat.

Milk Marketing. H.309 would provide for milk price posting and declare illegal 19 unfair trade practices.

Pullets. H.522 which would provide for the certification of started pullets.

Dairy Farm Inspection. H.656 would provide a unified inspection of dairy farms and products under the supervision of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Migrant Labor. There are a total of five bills pending having to do with migrant farm labor. H.127 would control farm labor contractors; H.650 and S. 1347 have to do with safety in the transportation of migrants; H.669 would place the regulation of housing for migrants in the State Health Department; and, S.1106 would establish a State Migratory Labor Commission.

Quail and Deer. H.349 would establish an open season for quail in Southern Michigan counties. There are various bills which would abolish, or limit, the authority of the State Conservation Commission to control the state's deer herd by establishing "any deer" seasons or to require approval by County Supervisors before any such open seasons could go in effect.

Economic Poisons. A bill which could have very serious results to Michigan's fruit and farm crops is S.1188 which would drastically curtail the use of economic poisons. The bill provides that no such chemical "shall be discharged directly or indirectly over or upon any property without written authorization from the owner or operator of such property." This would make it impossible to do any area airplane spraying and would even hamper ordinary orchard and field crop spraying.

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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.

Hope Rises From the Land



WALTER W. WIGHTMAN
President
Michigan Farm Bureau

Genesis: "The Lord God placed man in the Garden of Eden to dress and keep it."

Since the beginning of time, humanity, and all animal life for that matter, has been dependent upon the land for its existence. It has been said that in the United States the most valuable natural resource we have is the ten inches of top-soil that covers this nation.

It is really all that stands between us and starvation. Nations have risen and fallen with the fertility of the land that they lived upon.

The children of Israel, that once were led to the promised land that literally flowed with milk and honey, lost it when the soil became depleted by neglect and lack of proper care.

Rome, once the most powerful nation in the world, lost the ability to support the population it had at the height of its power. There were other reasons of course, but these reasons always seem to be associated with the depletion of the soil fertility.

Let us consider a cubic inch of soil. It is full of living organisms—probably as many in numbers as there are people on the earth. Probably nobody has ever really counted them. Maybe there are only half as many—say, only one billion.

Anyway you look at it, it is alive with organisms and is the scene of all kinds of intricate chemical reactions without which vegetative growth of any kind would be impossible. In other words, tiny microscopic organisms

group, and much of the success of Farm Bureau's legislative program depends on his efforts and activities.

Do's and don't's for Minutemen. Here are some suggestions:

1. He should not, as a Farm Bureau Minuteman, encourage contacts, letters, etc. on issues which are contrary to Farm Bureau policy, even though he may have some strong convictions personally about an issue.
2. He should attempt to keep the letters and calls from his group in a constructive framework. Criticism without reason is not very effective.
3. He should see that communications are short, to the point and generally deal with only one topic at a time.
4. He should see that all return communications from his elected representative are acknowledged promptly and referred back to the group at the following group meeting.

His job is primarily one of helping to get the right votes on the right issues at the right time, through contacts, calls, letters, cards, etc. from the members in his area to the proper officials.

He has only limited responsibility in helping to run the Community Group. His job is to see that the Legislators, Congressmen and Senators know, understand and appreciate the will of the Farm Bureau members and to encourage them to support this will by their words and votes.

Mich. Strawberries Offered in Germany

The Farm Bureau Trade Development Corporation is advertising in Germany's largest frozen foods magazine to attract food dealers interested in frozen strawberries from Michigan.

Bill on Spraying A Seaway Problem

Rep. John Dingell, of Detroit, has introduced a bill in Congress which would hamper the control of crop diseases and insects which might be brought in through the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The measure would prohibit spraying or dusting where any federal funds are involved, until approval of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been obtained. Red tape resulting in delays might make control of outbreaks difficult or impossible, say Michigan Department of Agriculture spokesmen.

too numerous to mention are what make all human and animal life. Let us consider just how important is the soil. We have been hearing of late how important industry is to Michigan. Special tax incentives are suggested to encourage industrial expansion.

We could continue to drive our old cars, or we could even walk if worst came to worst, but how are we going to live without eating?

In Calcutta, they tell us of picking up many bodies every morning on the streets. Those people starved to death. This is also true in New Delhi, Hong Kong, all over China, India, and other Eastern countries.

Russia, China, India would give all the military strength they have in exchange for the ability to produce food and fiber that we have in the United States. The fertility of the soil, and our ability to use it to feed and clothe our people and the people of other nations as well is without question the greatest and most valuable resource we have.

Not only that, but agriculture, and its related industries, furnish work for forty per cent of our labor force.

We, as farmers, are custodians of the most valuable resource we have.

The improper use, or the lack of know-how, to make the best use of the soil has been the source of a lot of human problems, strife, contention and hardship. With the world getting smaller, it looks as though one of our biggest jobs is going to be how to live with our neighbors. The best way may be to teach them by working with them how to use the resources they have at hand.

In our church bulletin last Sunday was a statement to the effect, "We really only help people by doing things with them, and not for them."

Our most effective missionaries to the under-developed countries in the world have been the so-called agricultural missionaries. They have taught these people to improve their deficient diets and living conditions by using the natural resources they have at hand. Usually this is closely tied to teaching them how to make better use of the soil.

Politicians want to do everything for everybody. The basic

philosophy here is wrong. It will develop weak people. Let's help people to help themselves. This will develop strong people. Strong people built our country.

Even the people of the under-developed countries don't want a dime. They don't want everything given to them. They want a chance to do something for themselves.

There is always a human urge to do things for ourselves, a chance to use one's initiative. Pride of accomplishment is a basic factor. Those who would plan everything for everybody would destroy the moral fiber of humanity.

When human beings learn to appreciate the value of the soil and to properly use and care for it then truly "Hope Rises From the Land."

Buy Farm Bureau seeds.

C. F. Huffman On Value of Corn Silage

Corn grain is just as valuable in corn silage as it is as ground dry corn, according to Dr. Carl F. Huffman, of Michigan State University's dairy department.

Dr. Huffman told a group of Michigan dairy farmers at an MSU Farmers' Week session that liberal use of corn silage in a dairy ration supplies a reasonable amount of cheap energy.

Corn silage needs to be supplemented with protein and extra grain for best results, Huffman reported. Grain helps a cow meet her needs for phosphorus

for high milk production, and it supplies extra energy. MSU dairy scientists recommend feeding about 10 pounds of hay daily to each cow in a herd. Research has shown that cows will eat more corn silage if some hay is fed.

Present grain prices are such that dairymen who run out of good hay before pasture time will usually profit by heavy grain and corn silage feeding to make up for the lack of hay, Huffman said.

Value of corn silage varies from about \$4.50 to \$6 a ton, depending on yield per acre, Huffman said. It is worth the 4½ bushels of corn grain in each ton, plus the difference between costs of picking, storing and grinding corn and the costs of ensiling.

Today in Farm Bureau

ROGER N. FOERCH

Manager of Organization Division, Michigan Farm Bureau

As we take a look at Farm Bureau today, we are aware of the tremendous activity that has been going on. Let's take a brief look:

March was Spring Institute time, along with District Women's Advisory Council meetings. This was also the month that continued emphasis was put on the five national legislative issues:

1. Adjusting our agricultural production to our potential markets.
2. Federal aid to education.
3. Medical care for the aged.
4. Minimum wage and hour laws - farm labor.
5. Federal aid to depressed areas.

Even, as you read this issue, we urge you to take a few minutes out of your busy day and write your Senators and Congressman. There is much pressure being brought about to create a larger government. Is this what you want? Your elected representative needs your personal contact. Don't let your country down by failing to write a letter.

Membership. As we go to press, the total of family memberships paid stands at 68,109 or 94.45% of goal.

Eleven counties have made goal and are: Montmorency, Iron, Alcona, Iosco, Mackinac-Luce, Missaukee, Delta, Ogemaw, Marquette-Alger, Chippewa, Alpena.

Allegan 156, Antrim 21, Arenac 16, Baraga 28, Barry 91, Bay 94, Benzie 18, Berrien 140, Branch 100.

Calhoun 89, Cass 76, Charlevoix 6, Cheboygan 35, Clare 11, Clinton 80, Eaton 88, Emmet 15, Genesee 50, Gladwin 21, Gratiot 72.

Hillsdale 106, Houghton 8, Hur-

on 139, Ingham 51, Ionia 71, Isabella 97, Jackson 92, Kalamazoo 132, Kalkaska 9, Kent 195, Lapeer 68, Lenawee 143, Livingston 85.

Macomb 91, Manistee 33, Mason 65, Mecosta 76, Menominee 23, Midland 41, Monroe 129, Montcalm 108, Muskegon 47, Newaygo 42, Northwest Michigan 27.

Oakland 30, Oceana 87, Osceola 69, Otsego 16, Ohtawa 96, Presque Isle 10, Saginaw 86, Sanilac 141, Shiawassee 38, St. Clair 85, St. Joseph 47.

Tuscola 50, Van Buren 130, Washtenaw 25, Wayne 23, Wexford 10.

As you can see, there is still a job to be done. Let's keep Farm Bureau growing.

If you haven't paid your 1961 dues, please send your check for \$12 to your County Farm Bureau now. This is your investment in free America and an opportunity to have a part in developing Farm Bureau policy.

As we project our thoughts into April, we are aware of the pressure of spring work and that Farm Bureau meetings must take second place for awhile. However, may I point out that whether we are riding a tractor or at a meeting, the issues are just as great and need our attention. We can make 1961 another successful legislative year; we need Farm Bureau members' support.

Let me close by saying—there is still need for a general farm organization. Have you done your part to build it?

Community Groups

Importance of The Minute Man

J. DELBERT WELLS
Family Program Division

The Minuteman has a very important part to play in making the Farm Bureau program effective. His or her job is concerned with the mechanics of making Farm Bureau effective in the legislative field.

The Minuteman has a first responsibility to keep himself informed on the legislative matters which are of major interest to Farm Bureau people in his local Community Group informed of current legislative matters.

His final responsibility is to see that various types of action are taken which will support legislative action consistent with Farm Bureau policy.

The nature of this job means that the Minuteman may not have to report at every Community Group meeting. Also, if legislative effort is urgent he cannot wait for a group meeting to move into action. He need not wait for his group to meet because all actions taken will be based on established Farm Bureau policy. In analyzing his jobs:

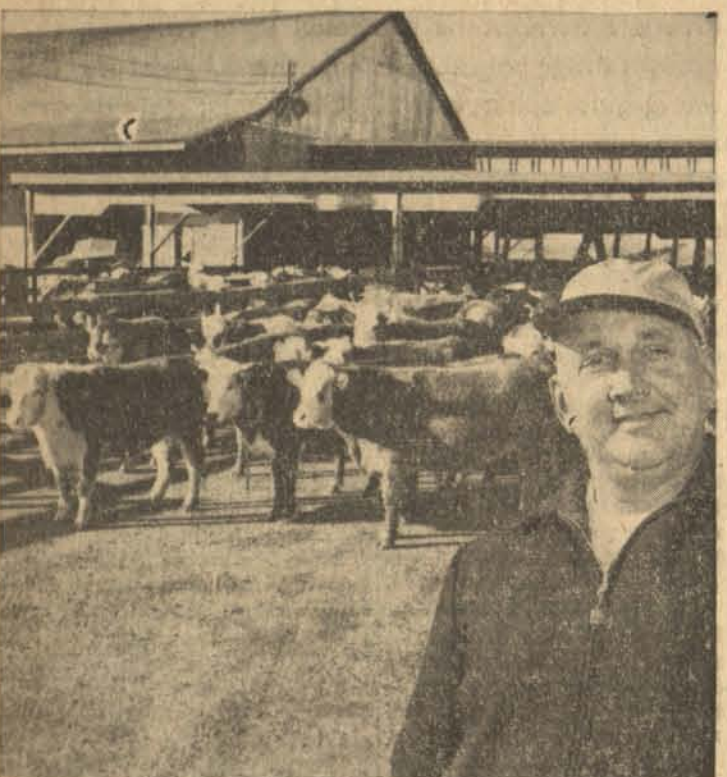
1. He is to get and keep himself informed on current legislation:
 - (a) Through reading and studying reports from the Farm Bureau offices, county, state and national.
 - (b) Through what he can learn from radio, press, TV etc., about the topics at hand.
 - (c) Through meetings with Farm Bureau officials in charge of legislative endeavors.

2. He should keep the local Farm Bureau members informed on legislative affairs.

(a) Report to his Community Farm Bureau, County Farm Bureau or other Farm Bureau gatherings.

3. He should supplement the efforts to get legislation passed or killed in line with Farm Bureau policy. His efforts mainly are involved in getting letters written and calls made (telephone and personal) which will assist the county legislative committee in an all-out effort.

He is the contact man for his



Cecil Lane is state director of the Alabama Cattleman's Association and president of its Louwens County chapter. He feeds out about 3,000 head of cattle each year.

"Our 5 paved feedlots paid off so well we're going to concrete 100%!"

Says CECIL LANE, Benton, Alabama

"Paving 5 of our 10 cattle pens gave us a great chance to see for ourselves the difference concrete makes in a feedlot operation. The results were so impressive we'll be paving the rest of the lots this summer!"

"The big thing our records show is the faster gains we get on concrete. The reason, of course, is that cattle don't waste energy and lose weight from struggling in mud. A clean, dry yard makes it easier to keep a close check on stock health, too."

"And on firm footing, cattle don't need as much space. We can handle about three times as many head in a paved pen without crowding. As for saving labor—concrete cuts our yard-cleaning time by at least two thirds!"

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in comparison with all hybrids tested



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Migratory Labor Pay and Housing

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

Back in November, there was that telecast "Harvest of Shame." It was distorted and gave the farmer a black eye. Many people were completely taken in by it. I wanted a look, — first hand. It was late February, but at least I could look at migrant worker housing and records of payments to workers.

I visited seven small to large operations in the fruit belt of western Michigan. I learned that these employers of migrant labor had from \$3,000 to \$28,000 invested in housing.

In Van Buren county, Lester Brown of the county health department kindly showed me around. He does field inspection of worker housing. We drove and visited.

Van Buren county lists 150 farms using migrant workers in the harvests. Only two farms were on probation for health reasons. I asked Lester what the greatest problem is as far as the health department is concerned.

His answer surprised me. Dysentery epidemics among workers. Why? I was told that many workers bring unsanitary habits with them. Some just are not "housebroken" in the sense that this term implies. They may use the cabin floor as a latrine.

The county health nurse works

with mothers to try to get understanding about cleanliness—but these people live primitively "back home" and bring their unclean habits with them. Filth and bedbugs are part of their daily habit.

Lester Brown said, "Mind you, they are not all like that, but enough to create a problem." I found that when the workers leave at the end of a season, the farmers have to flush out the cabins with high pressure hoses in many cases, or back the high-pressure sprayer to the door and let her fly before renovating the cabins. Strong insecticides and disinfectants are necessary in the cleanup.

I asked one of the farmers about this problem. He said, if

we could just get these people to bring better habits so that they would take care of the housing, then we could furnish better quarters for them. These cabins are better than they are used to.

"You would have to start improvements with the people. We have to put screens on the doors, as well as the windows. So they leave the doors open and defeat the whole purpose."

Blueberry Plantation. We stopped at Dr. Keefe's Blueberry Plantation at Grand Junction. I met Bill Riemer, who manages the operation for Dr. Keefe's heirs. He had 78 acres of cultivated blueberries. About 15% of the crop was picked with machines. About 350 migrant pickers were employed.

The cabins differed. Some were pretty plain inside and out. Some were more like small sum-

he said. "Workers come and go a lot. We have to settle a few fights among the help. Some of the boys get enough to buy liquor or beer and then take off. Folks complain to us because they throw bottles along the highways.

"We have some self-appointed crew leaders who take their crew members to the cleaners every pay day. Gambling. I would bet that one crew member had 90% of his crew's payroll in his jeans at the end of last season. He had a good thing—from his point of view!

"If they would let us allocate their pay—just enough for groceries each week—then the big payoff at the end of the season, the workers might have some money to take back home."

The housing units were long, concrete block motel-type units.



CABINS for migrant workers on the Robert Seeburg farm on the peninsula north of Traverse City.

mer cottages and the furnishings were more complete.

The simple cabins were finished inside with plain board construction—as was the furniture. I judged them to be about 12 by 15 feet in dimension. I asked, "How many stay in a cabin?" Bill answered, "What can you do when a family of ten insists in staying in one cabin even though you urge them to take more room?"

We looked over the shower bath. It was built of concrete blocks with large water tanks over the roof. These are heated by the summer sun. But the children play in the showers and run off the warm water supply and use the shower for a toilet in every sense of the word. The trouble? Keeping them clean.

The blueberry pickers average \$6 a day, but some ambitious workers collect \$14 a day. In a light season one has to boost the picking price to keep the worker earnings up. Families of 5 pickers have earned as much as \$60 per day. (I thought back to Harvest of Shame telecast. They showed the woman earning \$1 a day.)

Bill Riemer showed me a concrete block toilet. It was shut down. "We put this in thinking that we had a fine improvement," said Bill. "It didn't work out. The workers threw so much junk down the flush toilets that they plugged them permanently. We had to go back to the old latrines."

Do workers give other problems? Quite a bit of intoxication. I learned. This causes trouble among workers and drinkers pick few blueberries—and often earn little per day. It knocks down average earnings. "But," said Bill, "When you need lots of



ELECTRIC WASHER and laundry tubs in migrant workers' washhouse on the Fred Pugsley farm in Van Buren county.

pickers, you take what you get and you can't spend time screening out the drinkers."

Cohodas Orchards. I stopped at another operation hiring 350 pickers in Manistee county. It was the Cohodas Orchards with 550 acres of apples and cherries. The manager is Mr. Wexler. He has an easy-going, tolerant philosophy about his job.

"We take things as we find them and do the best we can,"

credit. They intend no harm, but often use poor judgement in money matters. Some farmers extend them an advance and once in a while the worker leaves before he has earned enough to cover the loan."

In Benzie county I paid a visit to Verne Hopkins. Verne has 40 acres of cherries and uses 60 pickers. The same families return year after year. He permits no use of alcoholic beverages. His units were—a farmhouse with apartments and a motel-type unit. Workers earn \$12 to \$18 per day.

A few miles away I checked on Chester Nugent's housing—a motel-type. He has an interesting policy. He rents his units for \$5 a week. But he furnishes bottled gas and stoves, running water, electricity and a laundry with two electric washers. It works this way:

Families who will pay a little rent take better care of the place. Less tidy families will not pay the \$5 for extra services. Mr. Nugent has 15 acres of cherries. Workers earn \$10 to \$18 a day.

Pickers at Bob Seeburg's cherry farm harvest 60 acres of cherries. He uses Mexican braceros. A neat line of cabins skirts the road. Cabins are electrically lighted. Records are kept by families. The average family of five makes \$40 per day. Mr. Seeburg is thinking of converting to mechanical harvesting, if methods improve.

I shot the last of my film at the Calvin A. Kelly farm north of Traverse City. There were 52 acres of cherries harvested by migrant workers. The units were well equipped for the Arkansas farm families. I saw gas stoves, electric lights and electric washing machines again. Mr. Kelly puts on an annual chicken dinner for the pickers. Picking at piece rates, workers earn from \$8.50 to \$21 per day, with some families earning up to \$45 a day.

I did not pick these farms. I asked for an assortment of the average types in the area, with a few good ones thrown in. Harvest of Shame picked situations at the other extreme, so I felt justified in seeing some good

Smaller Fruit Farms. The smaller, family-managed fruit farms seemed to be more selective in hiring migrant workers. They seemed to pick their families both as to living habits and reliability of performance. As a result, workers' earnings tended to run higher.

The living quarters generally were better. I found some with gas stoves, refrigerators and wash rooms. Flush toilets were provided in some cases. Electrically lighted cabins or cottages were very common. The furniture was of regular rather than board construction.

The Pugsley farm, in Van Buren county, was a good example. Fred Pugsley got out his record books. He uses migrant help in asparagus, strawberries, cherries, peaches, pears, apples and grapes—196 acres in all. He hires workers beginning about June 1 and extending through October 1. The housing was painted white in keeping with all farm buildings. The furnishings were good—stoves, refrigerators, washing machines available.

Mr. Pugsley hires southern farm families. They arrive at the farm in some cases driving new cars, pulling trailers full of their effects. The maximum number hired mounts to 77 at peak season. But some come early for

strawberries and asparagus, and stay late for apples. Families return year after year.

Some workers take the daily rate of \$9 per day. Others work at piece rates. Pickers working at piece rates average \$12 a day. Experts earn \$25 a day. Mr. Pugsley likes to use hand picking methods. He will go to mechanical harvesting only if the worker situation makes it hard for him to use such help.

He said, "On these new cars they drive from home, the men often overextend their credit. You have to watch them a bit on

Needless to say, my search put the telecast "Harvest of Shame" to shame. I found the pictures given to the American public a gross distortion of conditions.

Why was it done? Did it just happen that this telecast came exactly at the height of the campaign to unionize farm workers in California? Propaganda to create a public attitude for supporting a move like that is rarely factual.

Look at Cost Of Dairy Farm Expansion

Costs of dairy farm expansion may run as high as \$2,000 for each cow added to the herd.

Dairy men must plan carefully to keep their expansion costs as low as possible, says L. H. Brown, extension agricultural economist at Michigan State University.

"Remodeling old buildings isn't always the way to keep expansion costs down," Brown says. "For one thing, their cost as a lounging area should not be more than \$1 per square foot."

If old buildings are poorly located for drainage, do not allow enough overhead clearance or if they waste labor, they may have a negative value in a new system.

Some dairy farmers who have remodeled old buildings say that they would have been ahead to have selected a new site and started from "scratch."

Dairy-farm mechanization can save labor and time, but it can also increase expense of operation, Brown says. This means more pressure for higher output per man which is why so many dairy farmers have invested in various combinations of more land, buildings, machinery and cows.

Many times, a minor expansion by adding a few cows, putting in a bulk tank and remodeling an old building is enough, Brown says. But sometimes a major expansion is needed, and it may take eight to ten years to reach the new size.

The elm is the state tree of Massachusetts, Nebraska and North Dakota.

Business Raps Feed Grain Bill Section

Business was horrified by the proposal in the Administration feed grain bills to give the Secretary of Agriculture authority to sell government held surplus stocks of feed grains below market or support prices.

Walter Garver, manager of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, said to the Senate Agriculture Committee:

"The authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to sell unrestricted quantities of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks into the markets at unspecified or indeterminate prices is an authority that no official or agency should have."

"Section 3 is defended as only a temporary emergency program. We do not share the view that the feed grain emergency is such that this kind of authority with capacity to destroy the free grain marketing system is even remotely justified."

"This authority gives the Secretary power to set both floors and ceilings on feed grains, . . . to peg grain prices absolutely."

"We favor . . . reliance on market forces, rather than attempting to set them aside or destroy them."

Auto Maker Using Co-op Idea

The nation's fourth largest auto maker is using the co-op idea of customer refunds to promote sales of its Rambler and Metropolitan automobiles.

American Motors has announced that purchasers of these cars during the months of December through March will receive U.S. Savings Bonds, providing there are certain increases in sales over the same month of the preceding year.

Co-op leaders point out that American Motors will not pay income tax on these customer refunds. It has also been pointed out that these are actually "deferred refunds" and that customer will not collect the face amount of the bond in cash until it matures seven years and nine months later.

Critics of the method of financing cooperatives through patronage refunds, debentures, stocks or certificates of indebtedness may ponder the similarity of these two methods of payment of refunds.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
April 1, 1961

Can You Top This?

Named Michigan's 1960 Driver of the Year for his 32 years of driving without a chargeable accident or traffic violation, Chester L. Rhoads, of 12001 Stahelin Avenue, Detroit, has driven over 1,000,000 safe miles during his career as a truck driver. A driver for Inter-City Trucking Service, Detroit, and one of nearly 7,000,000 truck drivers in the U.S., he is a professional driver who places courtesy and consideration of others high on the list of factors responsible for accident-free performance. . . . Our hats are off to Mr. Rhoads and the eleven other truck drivers who competed for the Driver of the Year title, representing altogether 309 years and 15,359,600 miles of commercial driving without a chargeable accident!

Michigan Trucking Association
Fort Shelby Hotel • Detroit



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SOY BEANS
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MICHIGAN CERTIFIED
... to be sure

Field and laboratory tests since 1953 indicate that the best maturing, highest yielding soybean seed for Michigan's growing conditions is MICHIGAN CERTIFIED SOYBEAN SEED.

CHIPPEWA — Recommended for full season production in Central Michigan and early crop in Southern Michigan. In Southern Michigan, wheat can be planted after the soybean harvest. Medium height plants stand up well and produce medium-small seeds.

BLACKHAWK — Matures as far north as Gratiot County. Superior seed quality and standability. A tall medium-early bean with medium sized seed.

HAWKEYE — About four inches taller and one week later than Blackhawk. It has given excellent yields in good corn soil in the southern two tiers of counties in Michigan. Seeds are large.

HAROSY—Tallest of Soy bean varieties, its pods are well above ground and combine easily. Matures three days earlier than Hawkeye. Very good yield with large seeds.

MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

BARLEY • CORN • FIELD BEANS
FORAGE SEEDS • OATS • RYE
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... recommended specifically for Michigan growing conditions.

TOMORROW'S FERTILIZER TODAY

FARM BUREAU'S SPECIAL CORN STARTER FERTILIZER PRODUCES MORE PROFITS WITH LESS LABOR.

WHAT IT IS . . .

- Chemically uniform . . . each granule contains a uniform chemical combination of the nutrients needed by young growing corn plants.
- Mono ammonium phosphate
- Over 60% water soluble phosphate
- Dry lubricated for more uniform rates of application
- Made especially for Michigan soils
- High phosphate, high analysis corn starter

These Analyses Are Also Available:

4-16-16	5-10-30	0-25-25	15-0-15
5-20-20	6-24-12	0-40-20	33½-0-0
6-24-24	10-40-0	12-12-12	45-0-0

WHAT IT WILL DO . . .

- High analysis 3-4 bags per acre will do the job
- Dry lubricated — Keeps planter cleaner, less corrosion
- Early root formation
- Adds disease and insect resistance to corn
- Matures crop earlier
- Produces higher yields when instructions are followed



FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.
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LANSING, MICHIGAN

Governor Modifies Farm Tax Proposal

Governor Swinson has indicated that he is revising his recommended tax revision package by eliminating the proposed State specific tax on tangible personal property as it applies to farm machinery and equipment.

The original plan called for an annual State-collected tax of \$9 per thousand based on original cost, continuing for the life of the equipment.

It is estimated that personal property tax on farm machinery and equipment now runs from \$5 to \$7 million per year. The proposed State specific tax on tangible personal property was expected to produce approximately \$10 million of revenue from farm machinery and equipment.

While the Governor's proposal was estimated to produce no additional revenue for the State and was proposed as a relief measure for Michigan industry, many Farm Bureau members and Community Farm Bureaus throughout Michigan had indicated that the additional tax burden on farm machinery would mean an increased load on an already burdened agriculture.

Bills carrying out the Governor's proposal have now been introduced but are not yet printed and available for study.

Reaper

Cyrus McCormick, inventor of the reaper, is said to have gotten the idea for the grain cutting blade from a barber's clipper.

Constellation

The oldest ship in the United States navy is the Constellation built in 1779. It will be on permanent display at Baltimore.

Federal Gas Tax Expires July 1st

Farm Bureau favors the termination of the temporary one cent federal gasoline tax when it expires on July 1, 1961, the House Ways and Means Committee has been informed.

In a letter addressed to Congressman Wilbur Mills, Chairman of the Committee, Farm Bureau supported the pay-as-you-go concept of federal highway legislation.

Michigan Good For Poultry, Egg Producers

Plentiful feed makes Michigan a good spot for poultry and egg producers.

Add to this the fact that Michigan people eat more eggs, chickens and turkeys than the state produces and the industry picture looks even brighter for expansion opportunities, says Howard Zindel, head of the Department of Poultry at Michigan State University.

Poultry is a money proposition in this state, Zindel said. Latest complete figures show a 1959 income of more than \$45 million from eggs and poultry. The 1960 figures probably will be higher because of better prices, even though the number of layers remained about the same, the department head believes.

Michigan poultrymen can build their enterprises almost anywhere in the state because poultrymen usually buy complete rations. Land isn't necessary to produce grain unless it is desired, Zindel point out.

Plenty of labor is available to go along with all the new labor-saving devices for poultrymen. The Detroit, Toledo and Chicago markets offer much room for expansion.

Another optimistic factor for potential poultrymen to consider is that many people now eat chicken and turkey on all days of the week all the year around.

Least Rainfall

Death Valley, California, gets the least rainfall of any place in the United States, with an average of 1.7 inches per year. It has gone over 400 days without rain.

Direct over the Arctic flights between Alaska and Denmark began in 1958.

Don't Plant Alfalfa Now In Wheat

It is too risky to seed alfalfa in wheat in the spring, says M. B. Tesar, forage specialist in the Department of Farm Crops at Michigan State University.

Farmers who want to seed forage in wheat in the spring would be wiser to seed red clover. Alfalfa should be seeded in late summer after wheat stubble is plowed.

Getting a good stand of alfalfa seeded in wheat in the spring is very hard because of the heavy shading of the wheat which has a head start on the alfalfa, Tesar says.

Nitrogen, necessary for good wheat production, makes the shading even heavier and the competition is just too much for alfalfa on most soils.

Satisfactory stands of June or red clover seeded on top of winter wheat can usually be obtained under conditions that would make alfalfa a failure or near failure.

Red clover can be established by broadcasting on top of wheat up to about March 20. Freezing and thawing gives adequate seed coverage, and good stands usually result, Tesar says.

If seedlings of red clover are not made by broadcasting in March, the seed can well be drilled in early April with even better results than by broadcast earlier.

First, set the disks to cut one inch deep with seed falling into the disk furrow. Second, give the clover a shot in the arm with about 100 pounds an acre of 0-20-0 or 0-20-10 in contact with the seed.

The seed and fertilizer fall down the same tube so a fertilizer like 10-10-10 should not be used since the nitrogen plus the potassium in the fertilizer may injure the germinating seed in contact with the fertilizer in dry springs, Tesar says.

Strike Insurance Called Threat by CIO

The AFL-CIO calls strike insurance "a threat to collective bargaining" in its March issue of the Federationist.

To farmers and the owners of other businesses whose expenses go on even though crops rot and machinery rusts, strike insurance seems to be one answer to the threat of disaster posed by three-million dollar strike funds in labor union treasuries.

RADIO

- Listen To 'Farm Bureau at Work'
- Adrian WABJ Saturday 12:15 p.m.
 - Albion WALM Tuesday 6:30 a.m.
 - Alma WFYC Saturday Farm Program 6:30 to 7:00 a.m.
 - Alpena WATZ Monday 6:30 a.m.
 - Ann Arbor WPAG Thursday 7:00 a.m.
 - Bay City WBCM Sunday 7:30 a.m.
 - Benton Harbor WHFB Saturday 6:45 a.m.
 - Big Rapids WBRN Tuesday 12:30 p.m.
 - Charlotte WCER Saturday Farm Show 12:30 to 1:00 p.m.
 - Cheboygan WCBY Friday 1:05 p.m.
 - Clare WCRM Friday 1:05 p.m.
 - Coldwater WTVB Saturday 6:15 a.m.
 - Dowagiac WDWJ Saturday 12:15 p.m.
 - East Lansing WKAR Saturday 10:30 a.m.
 - Escanaba WDBC Saturday 11:35 a.m.
 - Gaylord WATC Thursday 6:30 a.m.
 - Greenville WPLB Saturday 1:30 p.m.
 - Hancock WMPL Wednesday 6:30 a.m.
 - Hastings WBCH Wednesday 12:30 p.m.
 - Houghton Lake WHGR Mondays
 - Howell WHMI Saturday 12:15
 - Ionia WION Saturday 6:30 a.m.
 - Iron River WIBK Monday 11:45 a.m.

- Jackson WIBM Saturday 6:00 a.m.
- Kalamazoo WKPR Friday 6:00 a.m.
- Lapeer WMPC Monday 6:00 p.m.
- Ludington WKLA Saturday 7:00 a.m.
- Manistee WMTE Monday 1:00 p.m.
- Marinette, Wis. WMAM Friday 11:55 a.m.
- Midland WMDN Saturday 6:30 a. m.
- Munising WMAB Friday 1:05 p.m.
- Muskegon WMUS Saturday 12:15 Noon
- Owosso WOAP Monday 12:35 p.m.
- Petoskey WMBN Tuesday 11:45 a.m.
- Rogers City WHAK Farm Program 12:00 Noon

- Saginaw WKNX Saturday 12:40 p.m.
- St. Johns WJUD Saturday 6:15 a.m.
- Tawas City WIOS Saturday 12:15 p.m.

First Inauguration

The first inauguration in Washington, D. C. was that of Thomas Jefferson, when Pennsylvania Avenue was a little more than a foot-path.

The word maru after the name of a Japanese ship designates a merchant vessel.

MEMO: TO REDUCE LOSS FROM PLANT DISEASES - PLANT

MICHIGAN CERTIFIED BEAN SEED

MICHELITE OR SANILAC

MEMO: FOR TOP QUALITY FIELDS AND GARDENS - POTATOES - PLANT

MICHIGAN CERTIFIED SEED

At Your Local Dealers

"GOOD FEED, GOOD MANAGEMENT, GOOD BREEDING IS THE KEY TO HOG PROFITS"

— says KEITH MCKENZIE of Cassopolis

"And We Use FARM BUREAU'S Precision-Formulated HOG FEEDS"

Feeding 247 gilts on self feeders with mixed protein and grains Howard and Keith McKenzie list good feed as the number one requisite in making hog profits. Feeding Farm Bureau's Porkmaker 35% pellets and free choice corn from weaning to hundred pound weight in the start of the McKenzie program. For finishing, the McKenzies use Farm Bureau G.F.-100 pellets and free-choice ear corn.

This year they used Farm Bureau Concentrates and have found them satisfactory in every way. Another factor of doing business the Farm Bureau way that is appreciated by the McKenzies is the service they receive from the Farm Bureau Services branch at Marcellus. In 1960, they marketed 1400 hogs and believe that good feed, good management and good breeding is the key to hog profits.



One of two feeding areas on the McKenzie farm. The self-unloading wagon fills the feeders with Farm Bureau's "Precision Formulated" feeds, mixed with home-grown grains.



The McKenzie farm has 2 two-thousand bushel corn cribs as shown in this view. They operate on the "self-feeding" principle. Opening of the doors releases the corn onto a cement slab giving the pigs access to it.

Your 2-Week Old Pigs Will Eat Farm Bureau's NEW Faro-Ettes

Sounds like a strong statement, doesn't it, but it has been field-tested and proved to be true. Because of increased palatability, our NEW Faro-Ettes are the only answer to starting

period feeding. The old formula has been improved to include more sugar, rolled oats and milk products. Ask your local Farm Bureau feed dealer to prove it to you.

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