

Michigan Farm News

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Vol. 39, No. 2

39th Year

FEBRUARY 1, 1961

Published Monthly by Michigan Farm Bureau

Start Drive for Goal of 72,105 by March 1

You Are Invited to Farm Bureau's Third Freedom Conference At Lansing February 7 and 8

J. DELBERT WELLS
Family Program Division

One of the resolutions adopted at the Michigan Farm Bureau's annual meeting Nov. 9-11 asked that we continue the annual Farm Bureau Freedom Conference. This is coming soon. It will be two days you'll never forget in case you decide to attend. Let me tell you about the conference:

1. It will be held at Lansing February 7 and 8 at the YMCA at 301 West Lenawee street. We can accommodate 175 nicely . . . and up to 250. We are hoping for and expecting a full house.

This conference will be a fast-moving series of talks, discussions, and pictures, starting at 9:30 a.m. on the 7th and stopping at 3:30 p.m. on the 8th.

Our goal is 3 to 4 persons in attendance from each County Farm Bureau. There will be three group meals (1 night, 2 noon) with an approximate cost of \$6.00. Room for the night and breakfast will be your responsibility. There will be an enrollment fee of \$2.00. The time is short. Call your county president or secretary for reservations.

2. The conference theme will be "The Battle for Men's Minds." The central thought is that the American people are being conditioned through many means to accept losses of our traditional American ideals, and to be willing to replace them with other forms of ideals.

People who study the changes and challenges have almost unanimously agreed that the individual's freedom of choice is lost gradually in accepting these changes. What changes are taking place, and how they come about without us recognizing them will be discussed at the conference.

3. Persons who know the score will make the talks and lead the discussions.

Dr. Richard Staar, professor of political science at Tmory University at Atlanta, Georgia, will discuss the Communist propaganda machine and show how it affects people in the USA. He has spent years doing propaganda analysis work for both Radio Free Europe and our own U. S. Central Intelligence Agency. He knows the systems, goals, and methods, and how we are affected.

Leonard Warner, press relations director of the American Farm Bureau, will discuss how it

is possible to start news through press, radio and TV to help you change your ideas. His background fits him for this assignment. He spent 20 years as a political writer for an eastern newspaper before going to work for Farm Bureau.

Dr. Russell Kirk, of Mecosta, Michigan, research professor of political science at C. W. Post College in Connecticut, will speak on "Churches—the Person and American Freedom."

He is a lecturer, teacher, and writer. He has published such books as "The Conservative Mind" and "The American Cause." His most recent publication "The Crisis in Protestantism" appears in the February edition of Fortune magazine.

T. C. Petersen, program director for the American Farm Bureau, is an outstanding speaker and leader. He will help analyze the problems and challenge us in the follow-up procedure.

Dr. John Moore will discuss the "selling of ideas" through the schools. He knows and understands how American ideals and freedoms can be promoted, or sidetracked through the public school classroom. Dr. Moore is associate professor of natural science at Michigan State University, and one of the sponsors of the MSU Conservative Student Club.

We'll have visual aids that tell some real stories:

Communism on the Map. A picture commentary on how Communism started in 1917, and how gradually, without military force, it has taken 40% of the world and has its goal set on domination of the United States.

Operation Abolition. A motion picture analysis of some U. S. college students rioting in 1959 against the House un-American Activities Committee. This shows what happens when Communists set a youth agitation program in operation against the United States.

Dust of Destiny. A natural science film by Moody Institute on unexplainable processes in Nature and our belief in God given natural laws.

The Freedom Conference is a rare opportunity. As far as I know, Michigan is the only state with a Farm Bureau Freedom Conference. Colleges and groups sometimes sponsor similar conferences, but with enrollment fees running up to \$100. Why not take advantage of this one!

Saginaw Credit Union Distributes \$23,800

The Saginaw Farm Bureau Credit Union board of directors authorized payment of 4.2% dividend on all full shares held by its members as of Dec. 31, 1960. The dividend was \$16,854.

The directors also voted to pay a 20% patronage refund of interest to all borrowers in 1960. This amounted to \$6,955. The Credit Union has 602 members and assets over \$450,000. It has its office in the Farm Bureau Services building at Saginaw and will have a full time manager in 1961.

Legislative Seminars in Feb. & March

The annual Legislative Seminars at Lansing for County Farm Bureau Legislative Committees of the eleven Farm Bureau membership regions have been scheduled as follows:

- Feb. 9 — Upper Peninsula and Bridge regions.
- Feb. 15 — Southeast region.
- Feb. 21 — Southwest region.
- Feb. 22 — West Central region.
- Feb. 23 — East Central region.
- March 2 — Thumb region.
- March 8 — South Central region.
- March 14 — Northeast and Northwest regions.

Central Region County Farm Bureau Legislative Committees will meet with regions to which their members of the Legislature have been invited.

Place of meeting is the Famous Grill—Skyline Room A—at the corner of US-27 (Larch street) and Michigan avenue, Lansing. Famous Grill parking lot north on Larch street. The program is: 10:00 a.m. — Discussion of state and national legislation, Stanley M. Powell and Dan E. Reed.

12:00 noon — Luncheon with members of Michigan Legislature for counties in the region as guests.

2:00 p.m. — Members of County Farm Bureau Legislative Committees will attend sessions of Michigan State Senate and House of Representatives.

Eaton Co. Soil Tests

Many Farms Low in Needed Plant Foods

The Eaton county soil testing laboratory processed 870 samples from 350 farms in 1960.

Although Eaton county farmers are applying larger amounts of commercial fertilizer in recent years, soil tests show that many soils are low in major plant nutrients. Following are the results of phosphorous and potassium tests made in the past six months:

Phosphorous	% of Total
Low or very low	52%
Medium	30%
Medium high	8%
High	10%

Potassium	% of Total
Low or very low	60%
Medium	18%
High	15%
Very high	7%

These tests indicate, said the soil testing laboratory, that over one-half of the soils tested should be receiving much heavier applications of fertilizer than they have been receiving if the best yields are to be obtained.

Most of the soils that test high have probably attained these levels by being fertilized heavier and the nutrient level has been built up. With soil nutrients at high levels, maximum crop yields can be expected in good years, and certainly higher than average yields in poor crop years.

Only 15% of the Eaton county soils tested required no lime. About 25% of the samples were strongly acid, requiring 3½ to 4½ tons of lime.

This Edition 73,642

copies of the Michigan Farm News were mailed to subscribers.

THEY'LL BE THERE AGAIN, TO FIGHT FOR REALISTIC FARM LAWS



Road Association Engineer Says:

County Road System Needs 20 Yr. Program

"Michigan's 86,000-mile network of county roads needs a \$3.5 billion dollar improvement program in the next 20 years to avoid rural traffic chaos," according to John B. Barr, engineer-director of the County Road Association of Michigan.

He said in early January that the multi-billion dollar demands were proved after an 18 months study by road experts for the Michigan Legislature.

Mr. Barr was "shocked" at the pace primary and local roads have deteriorated. "These roads are important to the future growth of Michigan. They connect nearly 400 cities to limited access highways in the state. The cities have a population of nearly 4,000,000 people."

Mr. Barr declared more than 100 engineers have found that \$1.5 billion dollars should be spent on 23,861 miles of primary roads and \$1.7 billion dollars on 64,000 miles of local roads, plus \$220 million dollars for improvement and construction of 5,661 bridges or structures.

"The need over the next two decades is for 1,277 miles of multi-lane highways in 22 counties. He declared 90 per cent of this mileage is in eight counties: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Kent, Kalamazoo, Genesee, Berrien, and Ingham. In this group of primary road needs are 622 miles of improvements and extensions in Michigan cities."

The last study of county road needs was made in 1955 and showed \$2.5 billion dollars was necessary, or \$125 million dollars a year for a 20-year program. "But revenues," said Barr, "have averaged less than \$80 million dollars a year, so the new 20-year program will require \$175 million dollars a year."

Mr. Barr emphasized that counties have not been dragging their feet in improving and building roads. They have built an average of 1,500 miles of primary roads a year, plus 1,000 miles of local roads and 50 bridges. The local roads have been built with practically 100 per cent local contributions.

"But local contributions," said Barr, "are diminishing \$1 million dollars a year and all signs now indicate the 20-year program of rebuilding and improvement has become a 40-year program."

Higher costs of material and labor, upgrading road specifications to meet higher traffic volumes, soaring maintenance costs have added up to making the program a near impossibility without extra revenues.

Michigan primary roads connect cities, villages, school districts and public institutions with regional trading centers, state trunklines and other counties.

Local roads are main school bus and rural mail routes, and are roads on which the majority of the farms of Michigan are located. These roads also are feeder routes to summer cottages of millions of Michigan

United Co-op Sales \$40 Million in 1960

United Cooperatives at Alliance, Ohio at its annual meeting January 6-7 reported sales of \$40,150,000 of Unico paints, fence, farm hardware, lubricating oils and greases, farm chemicals, barn equipment, etc., in 1960. Earnings after taxes were \$650,000.

Farm Bureau Services, Inc., of Michigan is one of 31 state and regional farm cooperatives that are owners and patrons of United Cooperatives.

National Program

MFB Directors Attend AFBF Kick-Off Meet

Twelve members of the Board of Directors of Michigan Farm Bureau and eight members of the staff attended an American Farm Bureau 1961 program policy execution meeting at Chicago January 18-20.

Similar delegates attended the meeting from Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin. Six other regional meetings were held in January for officers and staffs of the 49 state Farm Bureaus.

Ways and means were discussed for putting into effect major policies adopted at the 41st annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau at Denver in December of 1960. They include:

- 1—Enactment of Farm Bureau's cropland adjustment program to reduce the over-expanded agricultural production plant through voluntary participation.
- 2—Support sound national policy in the fields of farm labor and labor management relations.
- 3—Support legislation for balanced federal budget to aid control of inflation.
- 4—Oppose proposals for multi-billion dollar federal aids to education, with federal domination to be expected.
- 5—Favor expansion of private plans for medical care of the aged. Oppose incorporating such care into Social Security program with resulting increase in taxes.

The information and plans presented at the Chicago meeting will be passed on to County Farm Bureau Boards of directors and their committees for action.

Those attending the Chicago meeting were: President Walter Wightman, Vice-President Robert Smith, Directors Eugene Roberts, Elton Smith, Eugene DeMatio, Dale Duncel, Herbert Fierke, Ward Hodge, Mrs. Alex Kennedy, Lloyd Shankel, Max Hood, and Wilbur Smith.

Staff members: Secretary-Manager Clarence E. Prentice, Dan Reed, Ward Cooper, Noel Stuckman, Donald Moore, Delbert Wells, Mrs. Marjorie Karker, Einar Ungren.

To Consider Water Rights Farmers' Week

Michigan farmers and our water resources will be discussed at the auditorium of Giltner Hall (veterinary medicine building) Michigan State University, at a Farmers' Week program Thursday, February 1 at 1:30 p.m.

Private rights to lakes and streams will be discussed by Jerome Maslowski, ass't attorney general, State of Michigan.

New water legislation for Michigan farmers is the topic for Dan E. Reed of Michigan Farm Bureau.

Russell Hill, MSU conservation specialist, will speak on community action for watershed development.

Al Schmid of the MSU Dept of Agr'l Economics, will speak on farmers' water problems in the 1960's.

Grass Waterways

Many Michigan farms need grass waterways to control erosion, say Michigan State University agricultural engineers.

Plastics

Plastics are showing up as substitutes for metal in many pieces of farm equipment, say Michigan State University agricultural engineers.

Campaign is for 5,673 Members

Four Renewals or New Memberships By Counties Every Working Day In February Would Do It

ROGER N. FOERCH
Manager of Organization Division, MFB

February is the month for completing the job of getting 72,105 members for the Michigan Farm Bureau by March 1, 1961.

We have done well so far. As of January 25 we have a total of 66,432 renewals and new members for 1961.

We need 5,673 more!

For 71 County Farm Bureaus that is four renewals or new members for each of the 24 working days in February.

If you know a member who hasn't renewed his membership by mail, please show your interest by inviting him to renew for 1961. There are many farmers waiting to be invited to join Farm Bureau. We enrolled 4,273 new members last year by inviting them.

We invite every Farm Bureau membership worker and every individual member to help finish the 1961 membership campaign in February. Your interest and your influence counts. We thank you for your help.

We show below the County Farm Bureaus over goal for 1961, and the number of members other counties need to make their goal, as of our Michigan Farm Bureau records January 25. Memberships are coming in daily, so these figures may be lower for your county when you receive the Michigan Farm News early in February.

COUNTIES OVER GOAL

Number Over Goal	Number Over Goal	Number Over Goal
Montmorency 3	Iosco 2	Mackinac-iron 1
Alcona 3	Alcona 1	Luce 1
		Missaukee 1

Need up to 50 for Goal

Kalkaska 10	Clare 22	Baraga 32
Marquette -	Otsego 22	Gladwin 32
Alger 11	Presque Isle 22	Wayne 33
Delta 13	Emmet 25	Charlevoix 35
Chippewa 17	Houghton 25	Antrim 36
Wexford 17	Arenac 27	Manistee 44
Benzie 20	Menominee 30	N. W. Mich. 45
Alpena 22	Ogemaw 30	Cheboygan 47

Need 51 to 100

Muskegon 52	Washtenaw 65	Osceola 94
Oakland 52	Mason 72	Cass 95
Midland 54	Tuscola 85	Genesee 99
Shiawassee 58	St. Joseph 89	Clinton 100
Newaygo 60	Ionia 92	

Need 101 to 150

St. Clair 106	Isabella 118	Saginaw 124
Gratiot 107	Eaton 119	Barry 125
Mecosta 108	Jackson 122	Ingham 126
Lapeer 110	Branch 123	Calhoun 130
Bay 111	Livingston 123	Montcalm 134
Oceana 116	Macomb 123	Ottawa 142
		Van Buren 150

Need 150 to 250

Hillsdale 151	Monroe 179	Allegan 199
Kalamazoo 168	Huron 188	Lenawee 201
Sanilac 170	Berrien 189	Kent 238

Calls Harvest Of Shame Rigged

The American Farm Bureau has filed a detailed analysis of the 19 instances complained of with Columbia Broadcasting System, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Philip Morris Company, the sponsor of the program. Similar letters have been sent to the chairmen of the Agriculture and Commerce Committees in the House and Senate of Congress.

programs because of the important effect they have on public opinion and legislative action," the AFBF board said.

The American Farm Bureau pointed out 19 instances in which it said TV film presented by Edward R. Murrow and Fred Friendly was either biased or in error.

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



PURPOSE OF FARM BUREAU

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

Vol. 39 February 1, 1961 No. 2 Subscription: 50 cents a year Einar E. Ungren Editor

Michigan Farm Bureau

President: W. W. Wightman, Fenwick. V. Pres.: R. E. Smith, Fenwickville. Sec'y-Mgr.: C. E. Prentice, Okemos.

Directors at Large: Herbert Fierke, Saginaw; Robert E. Smith, Fenwickville; Walter Wightman, Fenwick.

President's Column



WALTER W. WIGHTMAN

We are moving fast into the new year. As we look ahead, there are many unknown quantities and uncertainties for agriculture. One of the unanswered questions is what will the new, incoming administration do about many of the important problems that demand immediate attention.

One of these is, how much longer can we maintain a soft attitude toward Communism and preserve our hard-earned liberties. To quote Billy Graham on the Hour of Decision last Sunday, "The hour is late." We will only be able to survive by returning to God and the basic principles of Christianity.

A frightening disregard of the basic principles of honesty, even by our national TV hookups, makes one wonder if we have already reached the point of no return.

Another concern of thinking people is how much further to increase. The vast additional cost of various local and state aid programs, financed through taxes collected by the federal government is pictured graphically and dramatically by a recent report by the New Jersey Taxpayers' Association.

They point out that a round trip to Washington, whether it is made by a human passenger or a dollar bill, must be paid for in cold cash that contributes nothing to the national economy.

Their report is timely and pertinent today because the new administration is committed to expenditures of many billions in this kind of two-way trip to Washington.

New Jersey Taxpayer's Association found that to get one dollar's worth of aid from the federal government it had to pay \$2.47 into the federal till.

The other \$1.47 was eaten up by such things as administrative expenses and spreading New Jersey's wealth among poverty-stricken states. New Jersey considers itself No. 1 on Uncle Sam's

sucker list, which includes 14 other states, of which Michigan is one.

The New Jersey Taxpayers' group claims they paid in \$246,500,000 into the federal treasury in 1959 for federal grants in aid to state and local governments, but received back less than \$100,000,000. This can only be considered the worst kind of extravagance.

It is suggested that if an individual offered \$2.47 for \$1 bills, he would be packed off to a mental institution. And, so we wonder, how much more we can stand and how much more we will be asked to put up with.

It seems rather ironical that our supposedly most intelligent people can't see this. The figures are easy to get, but it seems they would rather bury their heads in the sand.

Congressman Robert Griffin says if we get federal aid to education, that it will cost Michigan two dollars for every dollar we would get from the government. This corresponds with the New Jersey study.

It is hard for us to learn that the federal government doesn't have any money. It has to get it somewhere. Taxpayers are its only source of revenue. The idea that we get from the federal government is free and costs us nothing is one of the worst fallacies fostered upon the American public.

So, we are wondering what lies ahead. Of one thing we are sure, Agriculture is the most important industry in the United States and will continue to be as long as people have to eat and wear clothes. Agriculture and related industries furnish work for forty percent of the national work force. The Ford Motor Company says that farmers are its third largest customer.

So we have a job to do. To quote Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau, "A well organized minority is stronger than a disorganized majority." That's where we as farmers stand today. We are going to have to stick closer together in the future to meet what ever the order holds.

Motion Pictures About 70% of motion picture films made in the world each year are produced in the United States, with some 250 firms making educational and business films.

Ocean Salt The saltiest sea water is in the Red Sea (40 parts of salt per 1,000 parts of water), the least salty water is in the polar seas, due to melting of ice and little evaporation, and the Atlantic water is saltier than the Pacific.

Rate Increase Points Blue Cross & Blue Shield Benefits Michigan Blue Cross - Blue Shield have asked for a rate increase of 18.7%, effective April 1.

W. S. McNary, executive vice-president of Blue Cross, and L. G. Goodrich, executive vice-president of Blue Shield, informed State Insurance Commissioner Frank Blackford January 11 that both plans operated at a loss in 1960, and are doing so in 1961.

Higher hospital costs and greater use of needed services by members are the reasons for the request for higher rates. The proposed increases are calculated to restore the prepaid hospital - medical - surgical payment plans to a sound financial condition and keep them that way for at least two years.

Half the families in the state are protected by Michigan Blue Cross - Blue Shield prepaid hospital - medical - surgical care. Blue Cross is the only prepayment plan that provides its members with all hospital services covered in the contract without limits as to dollars paid in behalf of the patient.

The Blue Shield medical and surgical benefits are broad and have been described as "what people want covered by prepayment." Michigan Farm Bureau subscribers to Blue Cross have a contract that has no equal and is so far in advance of rural enrollment plans in other states that comparison of benefits is difficult.

Community Groups

Discussion Leader Has Key Role

J. DELBERT WELLS Family Program Division A good discussion leader is one who gets the other people to discuss.

This is specifically the role of the Discussion Leader of each Farm Bureau Community Group. The Discussion Leader, if he is to do a good job, must accomplish several things:

- 1. He will ascertain that those in the group know and understand the topic at hand. 2. He will provide an opportunity for each person to freely express his ideas about the topic. 3. He will see that conclusions are reached, if it is desirable to have any conclusion reached on that subject.

Information. In regard to the first point, the following suggestions might be in order:

- a. The Discussion Leader should familiarize himself with the topic prior to the meeting. b. He should have available such resources as he can find which give definite information on the subject. This should be as factual and authoritative as possible.

This may be another person with a specialized knowledge of the topic, or it may be writings, statistics, laws, rules, etc., dealing with the topic. For this purpose the Discussion Leader should avoid ideas and opinions and stick to facts if possible. A few facts help to put the problem more nearly in focus.

c. He should review the problems and the facts for the group until they thoroughly understand the nature of the problem or problems to be discussed.

Discussion. The Discussion Leader should encourage and permit the others to discuss the topic at hand.

- a. He should reserve his opinions when leading the discussion. b. He may ask individuals for opinions or he may ask direct questions.

c. He may split the topic into topic "areas" and get ideas on each part separately putting them together later in the meeting.

d. He may divide the group into "groups of 4's" with each assigned one problem and later have each group report on their conclusions regarding that problem.

e. He might split the group into "pros" and "cons" in order to bring out alternatives on the question.

f. He must keep the group on the topic at hand. g. He must see that all can share and contribute and that no one monopolizes the discussion.

h. He must recognize the point at which further discussion is

worthless and proceed to summarize and close.

Closing the Discussion. Conclusions may or may not be drawn depending on the nature of the problem under consideration. The following points are important:

- a. Conclusions if drawn should be clear, concise and to the point. b. Conclusions should be written, read back and agreed upon so that at least the majority agree on the meaning. They should be filed in the proper minutes and distributed to the correct places. c. If actions are to accompany the conclusions drawn, the Discussion Leader should determine that the chairman knows what specific action is to be taken. It is then up to the chairman to see that the action is taken. d. If conclusions are not desired, the Discussion Leader may review the problem and the points brought out. This will serve to clarify the points in the members' minds and help them retain the information as a basis for future judgment.

The Discussion Leader can "make" or "break" a meeting. Dragg, uninteresting, or "dominated" meetings will cause the group interest to lag and may eventually cause the group to disband.

A good Discussion Leader will develop the attitude expressed

by the woman who said, "I just love our group discussions; why I got to talk twice - while everyone else listened."

Sheep Breeders Ass'n 26th Sale Feb. 2, MSU

Sixty bred ewes and 20 ewe lambs will be sold at auction by the Michigan Sheep Breeders Ass'n at the 26th annual sale Thursday, February 2 at the Livestock Pavilion at Michigan State University, East Lansing, beginning at 12:00 noon. 4-H Club and FFA members will receive a 10 per cent discount on all ewes bought for project work.

Farm Safety on Trial Farmers' Week

Farm Safety goes on trial at the Farmers Week program of the Michigan Rural Safety Council at Room 116, Agricultural Building, Michigan State University, February 1 at 1:30 p.m.

A court case will be made of Michigan's farm safety problem and what is being done to combat farm accidents. They cause Michigan farmers a financial loss of \$7,000,000 a year...not including lives lost.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS February 1, 1961

BRED GILT AND BOAR SALE

All Breeds LIVESTOCK PAVILION AT MSU, EAST LANSING

Friday, February 17, 1960

Show at 10:00 a. m. Sale at 1:00 p. m.

60 Registered Bred Gilts representing all major breeds.

10 to 15 Excellent tested, Meat-Type Boars from M.S.U. Swine Evaluation Station.

MICHIGAN SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

Wm. McCalla, Ann Arbor, R-5, Pres. Keith Brown, Jonesville, Vice-Pres. FOR CATALOG OR MAIL BIDS, WRITE TO: Ed Miller, Secretary, Animal Husbandry Dept., 105 Anthony Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

"Neither Snow, Nor Rain..."

Herodotus, the Greek historian, said it in the 5th century, B.C., and you'll find it today inscribed on the main post office in New York City: "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." With the Christmas rush not far behind us, it's a good time to pay tribute to those who, day in, day out, in fair weather or foul, see that the mail gets through. Your postman deserves a pat on the back, but he'll settle for a smile... Incidentally, the motor truck plays a vital part in the distribution of the mail, serving the length and breadth of Michigan, from the most densely populated cities to the most remote rural areas.

Michigan Trucking Association Fort Shelby Hotel • Detroit



"...and I'll need another ton of that fortified feed, too..."

Think of all the time and steps an extension phone in the barn could save you.

Whether you need to call the veterinary in a hurry or order supplies while checking the inventory—or accept important incoming calls—a barn extension phone is a dependable, handy helper. It can save you valuable man-hours every month—keep your entire farm operation running more smoothly.

You'll find, as so many others already have, that an extension phone in the barn more than pays for itself. Why not call your Bell Telephone business office? We'll be glad to help you plan just where extension phones can be the most help to you.

Michigan Bell Telephone Company

Today in Farm Bureau

ROGER N. FOERCH Manager of Organization Division, Michigan Farm Bureau

January has been a very important month to Farm Bureau. Why? The 1961 membership campaign began. As you will notice from the article on the front page, the job isn't done.

As this issue goes to press, we stand at 92.1% of our goal. This is a total of 66,432 paid in family memberships. This is approximately 1,300 behind last year at this time.

This also means that we are just 5,673 members short of goal. (Check your county's need on the front page.) Let's remember, that our work isn't done until every prospect has had a personal invitation.

By the time you read this, your County Farm Bureau will be conducting a "Clean Up" campaign with the emphasis on new and renewals. Have you made a contact this year? Let's finish our Roll Call responsibility this month, so we can spend the rest of the year building programs at the county level.

During the month of January, a series of meetings for county boards were held to discuss a very important question: Does the definition of a regular Farm Bureau member and associate member need re-defining to indicate:

- 1. The type of organization Farm Bureau will be. 2. What its objectives are. 3. Who it serves and.

Fall Profits Are Made Now ... You're Ready for Spring



... with a LAND BANK LOAN

A low cost, long term Land Bank Loan provides the operating money you need to get Spring work off to a fast start, make bigger profits this fall.

Land Bank Loans have helped thousands of farmers to purchase new equipment and machinery, to buy seeds and fertilizer, to make essential repairs and improvements on their farms, to buy additional land and livestock, to refinance bothersome short term, high payment loans.

Low payments, no costly renewals and full prepayment privilege without penalty make long term Land Bank Loans the safest way to borrow.

Get ready for Spring with a Land Bank Loan. Visit the office in your community, they're always glad to see you.

The LAND BANK Works For You

LAND BANK ASSOCIATION OFFICES IN MICHIGAN. ALBION, ANK ARBOR, BAY CITY, BLUEFIELD, CARD, CHARLOTTE, CLARE, ESCANABA, GAYLORD, GRAND RAPIDS, HART, HILLSDALE, LANSING, LORAIN, MARQUETTE, MOUNTAIN VIEW, NILES, PORT HURON, ST. JOSEPH, THREES RIVERS, TOSCAIGNA, WALKER, WESTLAND, YPSILANTI.

Ask Farmer on Conservation Commission

"Michigan farmers have long sought the appointment of a farmer to the Michigan Conservation Commission," the 16th annual convention of Michigan Bear Hunters Association was told by Farm Bureau's Associate Legislative Counsel, Dan E. Reed.

More than 300 members of the MBHA met in Lake City in late January to hear reports, elect officers, eat bear and beaver, and crown the "Bear Queen."

In asking for at least one representation on the 7-member commission, Mr. Reed pointed out that:

Much of the hunting and outdoor recreation in Michigan is on farm land; Much of the water that provides Michigan's surface and underground water inventory falls as rain or snow on farm lands.

Much of the wild game, which is owned by the State, feeds on crops on private land. Reed also cited the need for a start in providing State water use and management law.

"Michigan law presently gives little guidance to those who are considering investment in water-using equipment," he said. MBHA members were urged to study proposals for farm cropland adjustment which are being prepared for consideration of Congress. Combining more freedom for farmers to make their own decisions with a realistic cropland adjustment, the plan deserves careful study, said Reed.

Dr. George Selke, newly appointed Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, was the banquet speaker. When arrangements were made for Selke's appearance, he was the Director of Conservation in Minnesota. Since that time he has been tapped by Secretary Freeman as an Assistant Secretary.

Selke says that Minnesota has never had a "buck" law. He believes that the taking of both does and bucks produces better and stronger deer. He said Minnesota had a better 1960 season than Michigan or Wisconsin because they had three days of good hunting with snow before the rains started. He says they should have taken 50,000 more deer, however, to protect the browse.

Blue Cross & Blue Shield Benefits

Michigan Blue Cross - Blue Shield have asked for a rate increase of 18.7%, effective April 1.

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Michigan Farm Bureau subscribers to Blue Cross have a contract that has no equal and is so far in advance of rural enrollment plans in other states that comparison of benefits is difficult. Michigan Farm Bureau members' contract with Blue Cross provides: 1 - 365 days of hospital care, full coverage with no day limit, plus out-patient benefits.

Ed Miller's Egg Marketing Story

NEIL HUNTER
Farm Editor
The State Journal, Lansing

Looking out of his window one morning in mid-summer of 1959, Edmund F. Miller, Jr., of Lansing R-3 asked his wife, "How would you like a chicken house in the space between the brooder house and the barn?"

Editor's note: What has followed that question is told in a State Journal article by Mr. Hunter which is re-published in the Michigan Farm News with permission from The State Journal. Mr. Hunter continues:

The young couple (now in their early thirties) had lightly discussed a large-scale, mechanized hen house and egg operation as a source of supplementary income.

Ed Miller lives on Guinea road near the intersection of Millett road, two miles west of Lansing. His 120-acre farm, is directly across from the 120-acre farm of his parents—the land which he had grown up on.

For many years Ed and his father have worked together as partners, raising grain for livestock feed, milking some 38 Holstein cows and selling to the Lansing milkshed.

But in mid-summer 1959, milk checks didn't quite go around to support both families. About that time the young Millers had their fifth child.

"You might say Ed put the chicken house up for the kids," recalls Mrs. Miller, "not to play in but for their future."

Aside from electric wiring, Miller constructed the 200 by 36 foot egg laying house himself and converted an old cement block brooder house into a washing, cooling and egg handling room.

"Chickens cost money, especially the good kind that lay the most eggs," says Mrs. Miller, "and we had to borrow money from P.C.A. (Production Credit Association of Lansing) for our first 6,000 Hy-Line hens."

Hy-Line is a Leghorn type chicken bred by the Pioneer Seed company as a superior bird. Debeaked and inoculated, the variety sells at \$1.80 apiece at 16 weeks old and they usually don't begin laying until they are

19 to 20 weeks. But they have a reputation for good production.

And they are long-life producers. Out of the Millers' original 6,000 chickens purchased in 1959 they still have more than 3,500. Next spring they will sell them and buy another 6,000-bird flock of the same variety.

"Like other phases of farming, eggs and chickens seem to get into your blood," Mrs. Miller says. "My husband has always liked chickens. He studied poultry in high school and took some short courses at Michigan State University."

A favorable egg market is another good reason why the couple will go on with their operation.

Her husband figures that it costs him 26 cents a dozen to produce eggs, without counting labor. "That includes feed, flock replacement, building repairs, depreciation, taxes and other fixed costs," he said.

Sometimes the average price paid for all grades has dipped to near 30 cents a dozen, not leaving much for labor.

Recently the market has been good and the Millers credit a part of the higher price to their co-op marketing organization, the Egg Marketing Division of Farm Bureau Services, which operates out of Jenison near Grand Rapids.

(Editor's Note: The Egg Marketing Division requires a minimum of 1,000 layers to go into the marketing program.)

The Millers operate under a strict producer contract which requires that they sell to no one else and they maintain certain high quality standards. A new U. S. Department of Agriculture grading called "Fresh Fancy Quality" which surpasses Grade "A" is being tried for the first time by the marketing group.

Quality standards demand that the Millers use a certain mixed feed which goes into the laying house on a conveyor belt, which turns on automatically four times a day.

The Millers must maintain a deposit of 10 cents a bird during the term of the marketing contract, which is for one year. This is so that they will abide by the rules. The money draws 5 per-



EDMUND F. MILLER, JR. is shown in the egg packing room on his farm near Lansing. The production from Mr. Miller's 6,000 hens is being marketed through the Farm Bureau Services Egg Marketing Division at Jenison.

cent interest but would be lost by forfeit in the event of selling to other than the co-op.

They must keep a laying flock of birds which do not vary in age by more than 60 days, and gather eggs at least twice a day, preferably three or four times a day.

They must store the eggs at 60 degrees temperature and at a relative humidity of about 70 degrees. A mechanical refrigerator cooler is required.

Their production must meet break-out standards for yolk and albumin quality.

With all these requirements, Mr. Miller said he had to think at first about signing up with the

organization with its new "Fresh Fancy" program, but he was convinced that its marketing plans were to his advantage.

Trucks from the co-op call twice a week during most of the year at the Miller farm. At Jenison the eggs are removed from cases into cartons for retail sale. Spokesmen say demand exceeds supply as the "Fresh Fancy" label is gaining in reputation with retail shoppers.

All sales are made directly to stores. None go through jobbers.

Mr. Miller also gets help with any poultry problems from the organization. A quality supervisor is ready to step in when needed and a feed serviceman visits the farm every three months.

He is strict about culling his flock of non-laying birds. It's "Better produce or you won't stay around."

In peak production the Millers turned out 80 cases a week—30

dozen eggs to a case. They plan to be back at that rate with the new batch of chickens by summer.

"These birds are more than a year and a-half old," said Mrs. Miller. "We had planned to sell them all earlier but the market remained high so we have kept them on a little longer."

The chickens have never been out of the laying house since their arrival at the Miller farm. They spend most of their time on fence wire that covers the center of the building. On wire they eat, drink and sleep. Laying nests line the outside of the structure and along the nests is the dirt floor on which the chickens scratch.

Heat of the flock is sufficient to keep the insulated building warm in winter. In the summer windows are opened and ventilating fans cool the birds.

Eggs are gathered in wire baskets and are taken to the washing room where they are dipped in 110-degree water which also contains a special solvent and preservative. Then they are cooled and the next day packed in cases.

To get around the constant gathering, Mr. Miller plans to further mechanize the operation and install a second conveyor belt that will carry the eggs out of the laying house into the adjoining room for washing and packing.

A NEW LOOK

Young People's Program For 1961

The Farm Bureau Young People's program will take on a new look in 1961. At their annual meeting November 9, 1960, the Farm Bureau Young People voted to become a committee of Michigan Farm Bureau.

This means that any young person who is a member of a Farm Bureau family can take part in Young People's activities sponsored in the county.

The new program will be organized very similarly to the Farm Bureau Women's program with a committee in each county planning the activities for the young people.

The Young Peoples Committee will be composed of six adults who will act as counselors and a young person designated by each community group in the county. The committee will meet periodically to plan projects and help to carry them out. The committee shall be responsible to the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

The State Young People's Committee will be made up of a representative from each Farm Bureau district besides the officers who are elected statewide. The 1961 committee includes Esther Robinson, Clinton county, chairman; Paul Dowling, Tuscola county, first vice-chairman; Jim Sparks, Cass county, second vice-chairman; Pat Murphy, Ionia county, third vice-chairman and Cathy Millett, Lapeer county, secretary.

The district committeemen selected so far are Duane McCorkle, Jackson county, District 2; Charles Wadell, Clinton county, District 5; John Goodchild, Tuscola county, District 6; Darrell Fuller, Kalkaska county, District 9; and Jack Lehman, Ogemaw county, District 10. The rest of the district committeemen will be selected soon.

The State Young People's program for 1961 includes summer Farm Bureau camps where young people will learn more about Farm Bureau. The remainder of the young people's program will be launched. Camps will be held in three locations this year so that all Farm Bureau Young People can take part in a camp that is nearby.

Other projects will include the Talk Meet where young people between the ages of 17 and 23 can win a trip to the AFBF convention by giving a talk on "Farming in the 60's—Bondage or Freedom?" The Talent Find winners from this same age group will also win a trip to the AFBF convention. More information on both of these projects will be re-released soon.

Other projects being considered by the State Young People's Committee include a Rural-City Youth Exchange program being developed by the Youth Advisory Council of Michigan. A Miss Farm Bureau Contest, Food Comes First activities, a project on Our American Heritage, and some tours. More information will be available on these projects as they are developed by the committee.



West Central Region

CHARLES BURKETT is the new Michigan Farm Bureau Regional Representative for the West Central Region, consisting of Kent, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana and Otsego County Farm Bureaus.

Mr. Burkett was Regional Representative for the Bridge Region of Chippewa, Mackinac-Luce, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet and Otsego counties. He succeeds Ray DeWitt, who has joined the staff of the American Dairy Ass'n of Michigan at Lansing.

Purge Didn't Come Off

After the passage of the Landum-Griffin bill, labor leaders vowed defeat for "anti-labor" Congressmen. Hoffa, of the Teamsters' Union, condemned 50 to "death at the polls." Of this number, only one was defeated in the 1960 election.

Michigan Congressman Robert Griffin, of the 9th District and co-sponsor of the bill, was one of those slated for defeat by labor leadership. He also had a high rating of support for Farm Bureau policies. Griffin was re-elected by a higher margin than in 1956!

If 206 Congressmen who voted for the Landum-Griffin bill and who were candidates for re-election, 202 were winners in the November election.

Of the 187 who voted against the Landum-Griffin bill and ran for re-election, 23 were defeated.

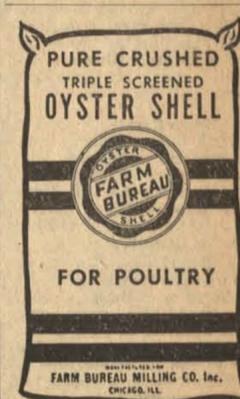
Sponge
The sponge of commerce is really the skeleton of a sea animal—with the flesh removed.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
February 1, 1961 3

Tomato from Seed - 70 Days
A new, extra early tomato that actually produced ripe fruit in 70 days from seed sown outside. This year grow your tomatoes from seed. Send 10 cents for trial packet to Jung Seed Co., Box 210-T, Randolph, Wisconsin, the developer. You will also receive pkt. of Giant Hybrid Zinnias and Jung's 54th full color catalog. Try Jung's this year for the best in seeds, bulbs, shrubs, trees at a saving.

Bohnsack Heads Feed And Grain Dealers

Raymond B. Bohnsack of Lansing was elected president of the Michigan Feed and Grain Dealers Association at the annual meeting at East Lansing January 13. Mr. Bohnsack is manager of the retail division of Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

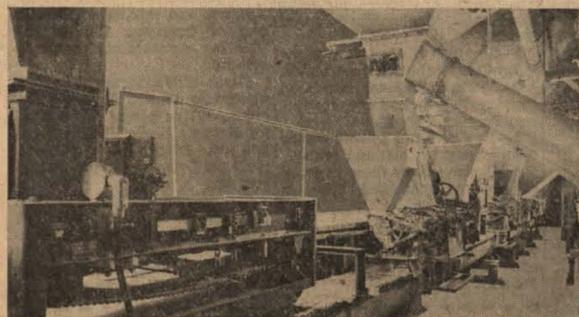


FEED MANUFACTURING!

You get the **BEST** in the country with Farm Bureau Feeds!

Feed manufacturing is no longer a conglomeration of ingredients thrown together. . . It is a precise science of blending top quality grains, vitamin supplements, minerals and minute quantities of antibiotics in modern facilities where quality control is the key word. Farm Bureau's \$2,000,000 feed manufacturing plant has two Precision Formulators which are so accurate that as little as 6 ounces of an ingredient can be thoroughly

mixed into a ton of feed. By contrast, the plant can load and unload forty-two railroad cars and fifty trucks per day, handling four million pounds of Farm Bureau feeds daily . . . enough to feed 10,000,000 animals. A modern laboratory maintains a continuous check on the quality and mixture of all Farm Bureau feeds. It's no wonder that farmers look to Farm Bureau for the finest in feeds.



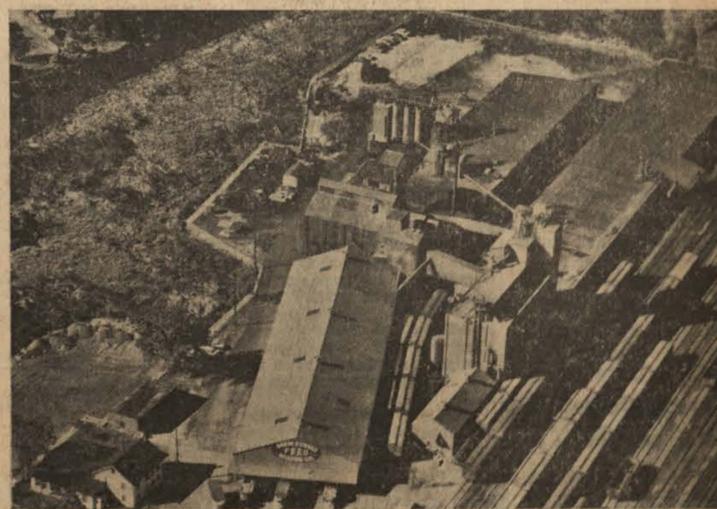
PRECISION FORMULATORS—Two giant 80-foot augers can continuously blend different feeds with up to 45 separate ingredients in each—perfectly balanced for your farm feeding.



BULK LOADING—Two 15-ton scale bins give swift and accurate loading for bulk buyers of Farm Bureau feeds.



QUALITY CONTROL—A modern laboratory assures you a continuous check to maintain the highest quality and precision formulation of Farm Bureau feeds.



MANUFACTURING PLANT—This \$2,000,000 feed plant, with adjacent rail and road access, keeps Farm Bureau feeds "Feeding Fresh" as they are rushed to Michigan farmers.

Just as important as quality, is SERVICE! And Farm Bureau gives it! Place your order with your dealer by 10 a.m. and you can pick it up the next day. . . Immediate service at the mill. Farm Bureau feeds are guaranteed "Feeding Fresh."



Shop where you see this emblem . . . it's your guide to quality coupled with economy.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

4000 North Grand River Avenue • Lansing, Michigan

Activities of Women of Michigan Farm Bureau

District 1

Mrs. Lee Cook, Chairman
Kalamazoo R-1

Barrien County Women's Committee met at Youth Memorial Building January 16. The group gave \$150 to complete our project of helping a girl in nurses training. Mrs. Robert Knuth gave the report on citizenship, and Mrs. Clarence Stoner gave the legislative report. The trip to Washington was discussed.

Cass County. Mrs. Earl Shearer and Mrs. Chester Ball entertained the Women's Committee at Mrs. Shearer's home. Mrs. Muri Spencer reported on the happiness the Committee women brought to the patients of the infirmary with their Christmas.

A county publicity chairman is thought to be a great service and the Women's Committee voted to pay for mileage and postage. Mrs. Chester Ball reported on the Michigan Farm Bureau State Institute. We meet with Mrs. Chester Ball February 7.

Kalamazoo County Women's Committee met at the County Center building January 9. Our topic was planning and zoning. F. Joseph Buckley, executive vice-president of Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce, told us what the County Planning Commission has accomplished and hopes to do. Kenneth Wager from the Charleston Township Planning and Zoning Commission gave us information on what is being done in this township. Mrs. Lee Cook gave a most interesting report on her trip to the AFBF at Denver. We are working on the sale of Camp Kett buttons.

Van Buren County. We met at the Farm Bureau building with Mrs. Phillips as hostess. Miss Valerie Owsiany reported on the new plat books for Van Buren county now available. Several projects were discussed to raise money for Camp Kett.

The Safety Chairman asked "If you awoke tonight and found your house on fire, how would you escape?" Plan escape route for all members of your household and a common meeting place so you know everyone is out. Keep a ladder available for 2nd floor occupants.

St. Joseph County. Mrs. Earl Crummond, who celebrated her golden wedding anniversary January 8, was honored at our meeting.

Mrs. Holton, in giving her citizenship report, asked that each member write to Congressman Clare Hoffman urging him to use his influence in preventing the abolishment of the Un-American Activity Committee.

To raise money for Camp Kett



MISS CARROLL KEELER, center, is the new Michigan Hot-house Rhubarb Queen for 1961. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kraft, 5825 Creek Drive, Utica. Making up her court are Miss Julia Hellebuyck, left, 16000 24-mile Road, and Miss Pat Avereyn, right, 14249 27-mile Road. Carroll was selected

over eleven other girls from Macomb and Oakland counties for the Festival cosponsored by the Utica Rotary Club, Michigan Hot-house Rhubarb Growers Association, and the Michigan Co-operative Extension Service. Miss Avereyn and Miss Hellebuyck were sponsored by Farm Bureau groups.

The women were interested in how the tax assessment rolls are made up.

District 2
Mrs. Geo. Crisenbery, Chairman
Jackson R-8

Our District Council meeting, which was postponed from January 12, will be held at Jeanette's sometime in March. As soon as the date is set each county chairman will be notified.

Branch County. Sixty members attended our January potluck at the 4-H cabin.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Sanford talked on membership and Mr. Gross, Conservation officer, showed a film about fishing, showing how they determined the age of fish, stocking of streams and lakes, and access to the lakes.

Calhoun County. The Calhoun County Farm Bureau Women met January 10 at the Community Building.

Mrs. Hombaker gave the Legislative report. Pressure is on the legislature to put the sales tax back on machinery as it would add much to the treasury. Farm Bureau was influential in having the tax taken off. The Farm Bureau also opposed the Con-Con to be voted on this spring.

The group voted to serve a luncheon for a special meeting of the County Board January 23. Mrs. Lantis will be chairman.

Mrs. Knapp read the address of Mrs. Haven Smith, chairman of the American Farm Bureau Women given at the general session of the AFBF at Denver.

Hillsdale County Women met January 10 at Wheatland Grange Hall. Mrs. LeVern Kramer gave a report on the program for the coming year.

Mrs. Russell announced that the Women's Camp would be held at Wesley Woods on March 7 and 8. The Farm Bureau Women will furnish the refreshments for the Annual Co-op meeting to be held the evening of February 21 at the 4-H Building.

Jackson County. The Women's Committee met at the Farm Bureau office January 3. A nice Christmas card was read from Janet Kitley, our last year's nurses scholarship winner. We voted to furnish a \$2 door prize for the dance for Farm Bureau Young People to be held February 18 at North West School.

Jackson County will be hostess to the District meeting in May. It will be the election of officers at that time.

Lenawee County. January 3 the Lenawee Farm Bureau Women met at noon for a potluck dinner. Mrs. Halley gave the legislative report concerning Edward R. Murrow's television story "Harvest of Shame."

We decided to adopt another lady at Maple Lane Manor for our Christmas Project. This raises the number to 6.

Mrs. Sager reported 40 people were at the roll call luncheon and we made a profit of \$19.

The women's program was accepted by the county board. About one half of the groups have sent in \$4 to help in the care of needy children in foreign lands.

The meat certificates were well accepted by the store keepers and made attractive displays.

District 3
Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Chairman
Holly R-1

Livingston County Farm Bureau Women met January 6, 1961 at the Court House. 22 members present. Speakers for the day were Supervisors Carl Radatz and Harold Armstrong. They explained township and county government, duties of officers and methods of selection.

fund. It was decided to have a silent auction at our next meeting to help with the Camp Kett project.

Mrs. Arthur Thede, chairman, thanked the ladies who had helped serve the lunch for the Farm Bureau Day held recently at the Griswold Auditorium in Allegan. Mrs. Max Radseck took some pictures of the exhibits at Farm Bureau Day and Mr. Albers showed a few of these slides.

Barry County ladies met at the home of their chairman for a December meeting. A very nice luncheon was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Vernon Morford, program chairman, introduced Mr. Kirit Mody from India who is studying paper technology at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. He gave an interesting word picture of the festival of the New Year in India and answered many questions about India and its people. He plans to learn the art of making paper from rice straw and start manufacturing it in a paper mill in Bombay.

Mrs. Ordezywolska from the health department was also a guest for the afternoon and told about plans for a hearing clinic to be held in February and March. She asked that some of the Farm Bureau women give part of one day to help at these clinics.

Ionia County Women's Committee held its December meeting at the county office with the chairman Mrs. Anton Hoot in charge. Roll call was answered by "What Christmas Means to Me." The program committee presented the program books for the coming year. Several things were discussed including selling more Camp Kett buttons, the coming Washington trip for Farm Bureau members February 26-29, and writing to CBS and Ed. Murrow concerning the TV program, "Harvest of Shame."

David Hepburn, graduate student at MSU from the Bahama Islands, discussed his native country as to geographical, educational, social and custom aspects. 72 Isles make up the 4,480 square miles of the Bahamas.

Kent County Women's Committee met at the Consumers Power Company in Grand Rapids on Wednesday, January 4, with about fifty ladies present representing 16 Farm Bureau groups.

Mrs. Helen Watring from the Home Service Department demonstrated using the electric fry pan for baking as well as frying, several uses for the blender and waffle baker and also how to use the egg cooker.

Ottawa County. Roll call at the January meeting of Ottawa County Farm Bureau Women was taken with 15 groups and 33 ladies responding by telling how their group chose its name.

Mrs. Melvin Klooster, our legislative chairman, gave an interesting report on "Harvest of Shame" program. All agreed that the program was not a true picture of the situation, truly a misrepresentation.

Mrs. August Busman, citizenship chairman, reported on agitation to do away with law ex-

empting farmers from paying sales tax on farm supplies.

The Farm Bureau Egg Marketing plant at Jenison was discussed by the Manager Peter Sikkema. He said that three years ago the Farm Bureau was one of the need of some control of the egg business in Michigan and after a great deal of research decided upon the service of an egg market.

By hard work they have grown from handling 200 to 2200 cases per week. There had been 29,000 egg farmers in Michigan with no system for control. The major share of their eggs were being purchased by four chair stores. 50% of the eggs used in Michigan are imported with Iowa supplying 8% of all eggs used in the U. S.

District 5
Mrs. Jerold Toppliff, Chairman
Eaton Rapids R-1

Clinton County Women's Committee met January 3 in St. Johns. They presented \$50 to the room for Retarded Children last month, and brought Christmas presents for them too. They are sending Mrs. Watling to the Freedom Conference in Lansing in February. Two members are planning to go on the trip to Washington next month.

The ladies have their husbands as guests at their February meeting. Mrs. Silvernail, student driver director of the State Highway Department, spoke on understanding the driver education program as taught in our schools. He said good drivers must have skill, knowledge and right attitudes as people tend to drive as they live. Something to think about.

Eaton County Women met January 3. Conrad Nathan, educational consultant for the Michigan Department of Mental Health, spoke on "Problems of the Senior Citizens." He said at the age of forty, people should be planning for their retirement years. With a continuation of the current trend the forced retirement age will constantly be lowered. He said it has not worked for people to prepare for their own retirement years (financially) and, therefore, it is up to the government through Social Security and taxes to provide for these people.

Genesee County Women's Committee had \$15 they collected for the Retarded Children's School. Their new office is finished, but a majority of the women favored holding their monthly meetings in various homes. Their program was on parliamentary procedure (this month with Larry Ewing helping).

Ingham County Women met January 17, in the social rooms of the county office. The ladies decided to buy some sweaters for the residents of the Rehabilitation Center this year as they seemed to be needed most. There was about \$38 turned in for this project.

Shiawassee County Women's Committee met in the Extension Hall on January 9. Pleasant Farms community group were luncheon hosts. Mr. Bender showed slides and gave a talk on Russia on January 10. The proceeds went to the Camp Kett project.

Bay County Women's Committee met at the Monitor Hall serving the annual kick-off dinner for membership workers. Mrs. M. Barnby gave a report on migrant labor. Mrs. Schlicker reported on Farm Bureau Information and urged all the women to work hard to make membership goal. Mrs. A. Wegner reported she had ordered bandage material. Mrs. Wm. Schmidt reported that five needy families were given well filled Christmas baskets. Two teen-age dresses were given to Kiwanis.

Bay ladies will be hostesses at the spring Council meeting and spring District meeting.

Clare County ladies met at the home of Mrs. Frank Humphrey. We discussed our newly adopted program and a Rural-Urban meeting to be held April 4. Mrs. Kapplinger was appointed chairman of the Rural-Urban meeting.

Gladwin County Farm Bureau Women met at the home of Mrs. George Coons. Mrs. Marge Karker gave a very interesting talk on correct parliamentary procedure.

Gratiot County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met in the New Haven Township Hall. Mrs. Munson introduced Mrs. Dan Mahoney and Mrs. Robert Mattson, guest speakers. Their topic was the new Special Education program, which was voted by the tax payers last July, for mentally handicapped children. There are now 80 children in five Type A rooms in the county.

Isabella County Farm Bureau Women met at the Union Town Hall with Friendly Farmer group as hostess. This was their Christmas party with games enjoyed by all.

Midland County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met at the home of Mrs. Glen Stowits for a noon luncheon.

Mrs. Phillip Schnepf reported

District 6 Council meeting March 7.

Tuscola County Farm Bureau Women met January 18.

Farm Bureau membership as of January 16 was 2424 — 96.6% of goal.

\$60 was cleared at the Kick-off Dinner and it was voted to put the money in the Camp Kett Fund.

965 persons received the cancer test last summer. Three positive cancers were found and 18 suspicious cases were discovered.

District 7
Mrs. Walter Harger, Chairman
Stanwood R-2

It is gratifying that so many counties in the District are working hard to finish the Camp Kett project. Along with other projects, raising this Camp Kett money has been a real job, but hard work and persistence will win. I would like to give my thanks to all working on this project.

As far as we know, The District Council will have its spring meeting at Fremont February 23. A letter and an agenda will be sent the county chairman.

Mason County. We regret the resignation of Mrs. Milo Coburn as secretary. We welcome back an old friend, Mrs. Albert Langfeldt who succeeds Mrs. Colburn. Mrs. Arthur Muir, state vice-chairman, gave a very interesting and thorough report of her trip to the AFBF meet. This county will host the Spring District meeting.

Mecosta County. It was voted that the proceeds from two luncheon projects, Ladies, cheerleaders served and furnished be used to complete the Camp Kett. The program for the January meeting was watching various cut flowers and green take shape into lovely centerpiece. This was demonstrated by a local greenhouse. Four lucky women took the arrangements home.

Montcalm County. Amble Group were hostesses at the January meeting. Pot-luck dinner was served to 42 ladies. The program for the year was accepted. Proceeds from a white elephant sale was turned over to the Camp Kett Fund.

Osceola County. At our Christmas dinner on December 6 eleven dollars was given to CARE to be sent to Hong-Kong.

District 8
Mrs. Kenneth Kapplinger, Chmn
Farwell R-2

The District Council meeting will be held February 15, 1961 at the "Michigan House" south of Bay City.

Arenac County Farm Bureau Women met at the home of Mrs. Koelach with a very good attendance. Chairman Mrs. Osier appointed the following committees: Legislation, Mrs. Rose LeFebvre; safety, Mrs. Florine Fox; citizenship, Mrs. Beatrice Fisk; publicity, Mrs. Joy Schmitz and Mrs. Rita Lysogroski.

Bay County Women's Committee met at the Monitor Hall serving the annual kick-off dinner for membership workers. Mrs. M. Barnby gave a report on migrant labor. Mrs. Schlicker reported on Farm Bureau Information and urged all the women to work hard to make membership goal. Mrs. A. Wegner reported she had ordered bandage material. Mrs. Wm. Schmidt reported that five needy families were given well filled Christmas baskets. Two teen-age dresses were given to Kiwanis.

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Mrs. Phillip Schnepf reported



MISS MARGARET ELMLEAF of Iron River was one of 1,300 delegates at the 4-H Club Congress in Chicago November 27-December 1. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Elmleaf, members of Iron County Farm Bureau.

Miss Elmleaf was the 1960 state winner in the 4-H Home Economics Division. She won a 1960 Key Award, highest honor in 4-H. Her trip was sponsored by Montgomery Ward & Company.

on Farm Bureau Information and reminded the group to cooperate in the present membership drive. Mrs. Thurlow, citizenship chairman, reported on the recent Farm Bureau Institute she attended in Lansing.

The annual potluck supper, with husbands as guests, will be held February 7 at the Community Center dining room. All Farm Bureau members throughout the county are urged to attend.

Saginaw County Farm Bureau Women met at the Lakefield Township Hall for a bountiful potluck dinner and their annual Christmas party. Business transacted was the reading and passing of some new by-laws. Hereafter, daytime meetings start at 12:00 p.m. sharp.

District 9
Mrs. Dwight Duddles, Chairman
Lake City R-1

Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Camp Committee has decided on two speakers for the camp early in June. Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, lecturer on Communism, now on his 12th world tour, will speak the first evening at St. Francis Auditorium Traverse City. This lecture will be open to the public.

Mr. Allan Kline, past president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, will speak at Gilbert Hall the last day of camp. His

home to Metropolitan airport, Detroit, and return.

TRIP PROGRAM

Feb. 26, Sunday - Leave Metropolitan airport, Detroit, at 6:40 p.m. Arrive Washington 8:36 p.m. Go to hotel.

Feb. 27, Monday - Morning and afternoon are at your disposal. Luncheon at Hogate's restaurant at 12:30 p.m. Visit offices of American Farm Bureau and meet with staff.

Feb. 28, Tuesday - Day will be spent visiting the Capitol and the Congress and talking with members of Congress. Dinner with Michigan members of Congress in evening.

March 1, Wednesday - Day for sightseeing tours. At 4:30 p. m. group will be picked up at hotel for airport. Leave Washington at 6:15 p.m. Dinner served on plane. Arrive at Detroit Metropolitan airport 8:25 p. m.

Reservations for this trip must be at the Michigan Farm Bureau office by February 15, each reservation accompanied by a deposit for \$10. See Reservation form below for further information.

NOT INCLUDED in the above cost are breakfasts, lunch Tuesday and Wednesday, evening meal Monday. Transportation from

Reservation Form

Enclosed please find check for \$..... for reservations at \$10 each for trip to Washington Feb. 26 through Mar. 1, 1961, at \$98.75 per person. Sponsored by Women of Michigan Farm Bureau. From Metropolitan Airport, Detroit, to Washington and return to Detroit, as described in Michigan Farm News December 1, 1960. Reservations must be at Lansing by February 15. Full payment must be made at Lansing before boarding plane. If party is too small by February 15, trip will be cancelled and reservations returned. Make checks payable to Michigan Farm Bureau.

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Address RFD No.
Post Office
County Farm Bureau

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WHY... because their flower and vegetable garden is the talk of the neighborhood.

HOW COME... they planted Farm Bureau Dependable Garden Seed.



Be sure you have the best garden around... plant the best... plant Farm Bureau Guaranteed Seed and you'll know it will grow.

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Garden Seed Dept. 2-61
P. O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan
Please send free catalog.

Name
Street No. & RFD
Post Office

Women's Holiday for Districts 1, 2, 4 and 5

The Farm Bureau Women's Holiday will be held March 7 and 8 at Wesley Woods Camp at Clear Lake in Barry county. The camp is located just off M-37, 15 miles north of Battle Creek, or 1 1/2 miles south of Dowling, and one mile west on Pifer road.

The camp opens at 9:00 a.m. March 7 with a coffee hour and registration. Program starts at 10 a.m. March 7 and March 8 at 9:00 a.m.

The first day we are to have Mrs. Marie Daugherty, director of women's activities for American Farm Bureau. She will speak in the morning on "Farm Bureau Women's Activities in Other States" and again in the afternoon.

Mrs. Emma Hombaker will present a skit on program planning. Melvin Woell will speak on public relations. In the evening Bud Thar will speak on "As I Saw India."

March 8 at the morning session

Reservation Form
Wesley Woods Camp
Dowling R-1, Michigan

I wish to attend the Farm Bureau Women's Holiday at Wesley Woods, Clear Lake, March 7 and 8, 1961.

I shall attend March 7 and 8 and stay overnight March 7.
I shall attend by the day:
 March 7 Lunch Dinner
 March 8 Lunch Dinner

NAME
Address RFD
Post Office
County

Recommendations For Michigan Farm Bureau

Editor's Note — At each annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, the State Resolutions Committee and the delegates from County Farm Bureaus thoughtfully consider the Farm Bureau as an organization and make recommendations. We present the observations and recommendations made at the 41st annual meeting November 9-10-11, 1960:

Community Farm Bureau Program

We recognize that our Community Farm Bureaus present our members with an unusual opportunity for gaining information, expressing themselves on issues and having a voice in the affairs of our Farm Bureau. This program has contributed to much of the success and growth of Farm Bureau in Michigan.

The Community Farm Bureau program should be developed as vigorously as possible.

We urge the County Farm Bureaus to do everything within their power to increase member attendance at these group meetings, and to aid in positive and interesting program development for the meetings.

We would also urge our County Farm Bureaus to set up goals to increase the number of Community Farm Bureaus in their counties, thus increasing the opportunity for active member participation.

We would suggest that the Community Farm Bureaus could become a more active element in the County Farm Bureau program if a County Farm Bureau Council were formed consisting of the chairmen of the Community Farm Bureaus and meeting with the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors on a quarterly basis for discussion, counsel and advice with regard to the development of programs of the County Farm Bureau.

We would urge the planning and holding of more all-county meetings for Farm Bureau members. Programs for these meetings could be supplied in part by a selected combination of Community Farm Bureaus working as a team for their meeting assignments.

Various meetings could be planned by different combinations of Community groups.

This would give us more intergroup cooperation and broader common interest in County Farm Bureau programs. These meetings could also be used to enrich the information of members regarding issues and the affairs of their Farm Bureau.

We would urge all members to take fuller advantage of the Community Farm Bureau meetings, and to make the best use of these meetings to achieve the purposes for which this program was dedicated, namely:

1. To weld a closer bond between the members and their county, state and national organizations.
2. To serve as a means of discovering and training Farm Bureau leaders.
3. To make possible a better informed membership.
4. To give farmers an opportunity to analyze their problems together.
5. To create an opportunity for cooperation in solving local problems.
6. To give the member an opportunity to assist in developing policies.
7. To enrich the social life of the community.
8. To provide the means for member participation in Farm Bureau.

Women of Farm Bureau

We recognize the strength and vigor given to our Michigan Farm Bureau by the Women of Farm Bureau through their constructive program efforts over the years.

They have done much to make the communities better places in which to live. They have been a

positive force for Farm Bureau public relations. Their work is recognized as being of great civic importance to programs in health, safety, citizenship, education and international understanding.

They have provided a link which has bound our membership together to achieve common and constructive purposes and better understanding of our Farm Bureau organization itself.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Women of Farm Bureau for these contributions in building a strong program.

Farm Bureau Young People

Since the future of Farm Bureau and agriculture lies in our young people, we recommend that a Farm Bureau Young People's program be promoted and supported as a part of our Family Program Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau and by the County Farm Bureaus of Michigan.

Young Farmers in Farm Bureau

The voice of all farmers should be heard through Farm Bureau. The young farmers must take an active part in their farm organization.

We support a Young Adult Program to further involve the young farm family in the Farm Bureau through the organization of Community Farm Bureaus in these age brackets.

We would urge all County Farm Bureaus to give aid to such a program development.

Farm Bureau Work With Other Groups

We are impressed with the rate at which our Farm Bureau activities with other groups has expanded in the direction of arousing concern over the rising tide of Communist influence in our Nation.

We appreciate the fact that our staff has made 60 showings of the film "Communism on the Map" before public groups in a period of two months, and that pamphlets have been prepared to accompany these showings to alert the public to the dangers that face our nation from within as well as without.

We are proud that Michigan Farm Bureau is taking the leadership in this very important effort to alert the American people. We strongly urge further continued action in programs of this type. And we commend our staff for their dedicated efforts to make this work effective.

Effective Political Action by Members

It has become increasingly apparent that the elected representatives of our state and national governments are often committed to the policies of politically active groups through whose efforts they have been elected to office.

We realize that it is difficult for us to maintain our legislative influence unless we become active in nominating and electing representatives who will support the policies and programs which we favor.

The only way in which we may be effective in doing the job that is needed is to become active in the political parties of our choice.

We recommend a vigorous program by the Michigan Farm Bureau and the County Farm Bureaus, to be conducted on a bi-partisan basis, which will serve to train our people in more effective political action and spur our members to take an active part in the political process.

This will be imperative if we are to keep an effective voice in the affairs of our state and national governments.

Farm Bureau Freedom Conferences

We believe that the Farm Bureau Freedom Conferences in Michigan for the past two years have been very helpful in informing our members and leaders concerning national movements involving our American constitutional liberties.

We must understand the action being taken by subversive groups who would undermine our freedoms and our American way of life.

We request that such conferences be continued. We would encourage the Citizenship Committees of our County Farm Bu-

reaus to form local study groups of members to utilize available films and materials which can reveal to them not only the movements of such subversive groups but also what citizens can do to counteract them.

Blue Cross - Blue Shield

We recognize that there are many problems existing within our hospital - medical - surgical program. These problems are highly complex and technical in nature. Intensive study is necessary to determine a sound and beneficial line of action with reference to them.

We recommend, therefore, that the State Study Committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau should undertake an intensive examination of the problems and the facts so as to develop advisable lines of action in the best interest of the Farm Bureau membership.

High School Libraries

We would recommend to the County Farm Bureaus that, as a public relations proposition, each County Farm Bureau should provide a subscription of the Michigan Farm News to each high school library and public library in its county. This would make available information about Farm Bureau to our youth and to the teachers in our schools.

Farm Bureau Safety Program

We are concerned that no organized program in farm safety, involving cooperative activities in farm safety between the Michigan Farm Bureau and the County Farm Bureau levels, has been under way for the last year.

We would earnestly request that a program of this sort be revitalized so as to give strong emphasis to safety practices among our members and aimed at reducing the high incidence of farm accidents. We would appreciate the support of our insurance companies in helping to reactivate this program.

Reaffirmation

We reaffirm the resolutions adopted at previous annual meetings that are now in force, except insofar as they are modified or supplemented by the resolutions adopted at this annual meeting.

Resolutions Committee

- District**
- 1 - Donald L. Piper, Chairman, Bangor.
 - 2 - Clarence Herford, Britton.
 - 3 - Ralph Peckens, Howell.
 - 4 - Mrs. Clare Barton, Plainwell.
 - 5 - Glenn Williams, Elsie.
 - 6 - Donald C. Kreiner, Brown City.
 - 7 - Robert L. Alberts, Ravena.
 - 8 - Mrs. Samuel Nash, Gladwin.
 - 9 - Robert Snell, Beulah.
 - 10 - Willard Wanger, vice-chairman, West Branch.
 - 11 - Ronald W. Clark, Gould City.

Farm Bureau Women
Mrs. William Scramlin, Holly.
Mrs. Arthur Muir, Grant.
Mrs. Herman Ristow, Rogers City.

Farm Bureau Young People
Miss Esther Robinson, East Lansing.

This is not, and under no circumstances is it to be construed as, an offering of these Debentures for sale, or as a solicitation of offers to buy any such Debentures. The offering is made only by the Prospectus.

Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.

DEBENTURES

5% Simple Interest - 10 Years Maturity

The purpose of this issue is to provide increased working capital for Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Inc. The issue and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. are fully described in the Prospectus dated December 4, 1960. The Prospectus is the basis for all sales.

For a copy of the Prospectus, and a call by a licensed salesman, please fill in and mail the form below:

FARMERS PETROLEUM COOPERATIVE, INC.
4000 N. Grand River, P.O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan

I am interested in learning more about your investment program. Please provide me with information. (No obligation assumed)

Name

Address

County

Committee Members at Large
L. Dale Duncel, Williamston.
Allen F. Rush, Lake Orion.
Robert E. Smith, Fowlerville.

Farm Bureau In Upper Peninsula

The Little Brown Jug, the Upper Peninsula membership award, will remain in Iron county another year.

Iron County Farm Bureau members repeated their last year's performance by being the first county in the District to reach their membership goal. It was achieved January 12, the same date as last year.

Menominee and Delta County Farm Bureaus are cooperating with the Junior Chambers of Commerce in sponsoring the Young Farmers contest in the two counties. Similar contests were conducted in the two counties last year with Carlton Vandres chosen as the outstanding young farmer in Delta county and Sheldon Klein in Menominee county. Committees are screening the prospective winners at this time.

Women's and Citizenship Committees of Menominee county and Delta county have scheduled meetings on citizenship activities. Two meetings have been scheduled in Menominee County: February 15 at the Stephenson Sports Club; February 16 at Ark River Harris School. The Delta meeting will be at Cornell Town Hall February 17. All meetings at 8:00 p.m.

"Communism on the Map" and "Understanding the American Way" films will be shown at these meetings with J. Delbert Wells of the state staff present to comment on citizenship activities. Similar meetings are being scheduled in the other counties.

Farm Bureau spirit was demonstrated when Abram Hyer of Skandia in Marquette county lost his barn by fire. He lost some of his cattle and all of his winter's feed. Farm Bureau members came to his aid with hay, temporary quarters for his cattle and other assistance.

Allegan County Has Farm Bureau Day

"Let's tell the Farm Bureau Story." This was the theme behind the "Farm Bureau Day" held at Allegan January 5, 1961.

Businessmen and farmers were invited to spend the day at Griswold auditorium to review exhibits, see pictures and hear talks about Farm Bureau and its activities.

Exhibits were on display in the basement of the building featuring the work of the County Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Services, Farm Bureau Petroleum, Farm Bureau Insurance, Great Lakes Cherry Producers and several other enterprises.

Talks were given and accompanied by pictures by Irving Leblanc, sales manager of Farm Bureau Insurance, and J. Del-

bert Wells of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Dan Reed of the Farm Bureau legislative staff spoke on "What the Change in Administration Might Mean to Us as Producers." Herb Alp, of the American Farm Bureau spoke on Farm Bureau's Rotterdam Trade Center and our future in world affairs.

Dr. John Hunter, M.S.U. Agriculture Economics Department, discussed what the disappearance of the U.S. gold means to us. Dr. Warren Collins of the AFBF research department spoke on the conflict between our farm policy and our foreign policy.

Another outstanding feature on the program was a talk on cherry marketing. This was given by the Jerry Reeder of the Great Lakes Cherry Association. Under the leadership of Allegan County Farm Bureau President Max Radseek, the program was well received by the 250 people that attended.

A complimentary lunch was served buffet style at noon and evening with the Farm Bureau Women selling Camp Kett buttons during these periods.

Andy Lohman and Homer N. Patterson were chairman of the various sessions, music for the evening was furnished by the Casco band.

This was the first attempt by Allegan County with this type of a program and it was a huge success.

Activities of Farm Bureau Women

(Continued from Page 4)

Ada Trout, Mrs. Ed Brindley, safety chairman, (reminded us that January is Polio month. She also read a letter from Mrs. Karker with some suggestions on first aid in the home.

Mrs. Harry Kenyon, Legislative chairman, gave a very interesting report on President Kennedy's cabinet. Mrs. Willard Wangler reported that \$80 had been turned in to her so far for Camp Kett buttons. The women decided to take one more month to finish selling the remaining buttons. The groups expressed their sympathy to Mrs. Beckman in the death of her husband.

The program Planning Committee reported as follows: February, Safety; March, Politics; April, Cancer; May, First Aid; June, Dairy month and Twin Lakes Camp; July, County Camp; August, Picnic and selection of queen; September, Driver's Education and the school program; October, United Nations; November, Education Month; and December, Christmas party.

Each lady present was asked to contact the women of her group to see if they would be interested in having a County Camp at hardwood Lake and report at next meeting. The group asked the Citizenship and Legislative Chairmen to go on the trip to Washington, D. C. and they would pay \$50 toward their expenses.

Mrs. Eugene DeMatio gave her report on her trip to Denver for the AFBF meeting. She showed some beautiful slides of some of the things she saw and gave a most interesting talk.

Montmorency County Women met at the home of Mrs. Charles Keegan on December 27. The safety chairman led an interesting discussion on artificial respiration, bleeding, hiccoughs and old medicines. Most interest

was shown in a brief discussion on citizenship. Money continues to come in for the Camp Kett Farm Bureau Dormitory.

District 10W

Mrs. Vernon Vance
East Jordan R-3

Antrim County representatives at the Farm Bureau Women's District meeting in Petoskey were very much impressed with Mrs. Karker's talk on Parliamentary Procedure, and devoted a good share of their January meeting to hearing Mrs. T. F. French of Charlevoix County speak on this subject which is of great importance to all of us. A question and answer discussion followed.

A report of the Christmas visit to Traverse City State Hospital was given, and plans made to continue the trips once each month with homemade cookies, and other refreshments and some type of entertainment. These visits are important and rewarding to those who take time to go and to the patients who look forward and respond well to them.

Antrim County is considering a rural-urban meet, and while a date is being considered, a door to door campaign to finish the Camp Kett button selling will be undertaken.

Charlevoix County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met at Mrs. Arnold Copeland's home in Charlevoix in January to hear a most informative talk on Parliamentary Procedure by our chair-

(Continued on Page 6)



With ADA of Mich.

RAYMOND O. DeWITT was appointed Director of Membership Relations by the American Dairy Association of Michigan, effective January 16, 1961. He is responsible for forming and carrying out new membership programs, and producer and industry information services.

Mr. DeWitt joined the staff of the Michigan Farm Bureau in January, 1955 as a regional membership representative. At the time of his resignation he was regional membership representative for the West Central District.

It takes lots of tact to give a feller a shot in the arm, without him feeling the needle.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
February 1, 1961 5



farmers who
"Know their Oats"
Plant
MICHIGAN CERTIFIED

Michigan Certified Oat Seed Varieties are field and laboratory proven for high germination, varietal purity, and uniform quality. All varieties are particularly adapted for Michigan climate to assure you of the highest possible yield. This year Plant Michigan Certified ... to be sure.

- JACKSON • CLINTLAND • CLINTLAND 60
- SIMCOE • GARRY • RODNEY

Write for free 16-page booklet of "Michigan Certified Crop Varieties and Seed Directory for 1961 Planting"

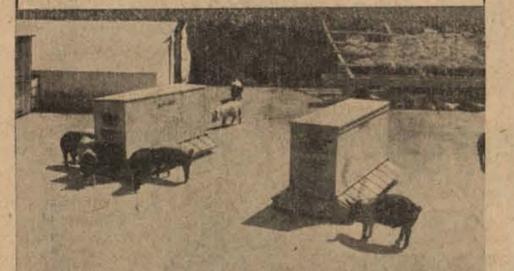
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101
LEAFLET SEED

BARLEY • CORN • FIELD BEANS
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"... recommended specifically for Michigan growing conditions."

Tested way to make more money with hogs: keep them on concrete from birth to market!

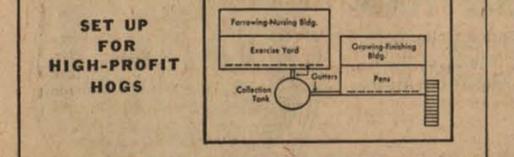


Confinement method gives faster gains, healthier hogs, big labor savings

More than 4% faster weight gains in confinement than on pasture—that's how hogs did at recent Purdue University tests. And farmers everywhere are finding that, on concrete, more pigs are weaned per litter, more hogs are marketed.

And with concrete yards and concrete housing, growers aren't held to just one or two farrowings a year. No worries about bad weather or poor pasture.

Confinement allows farmers to handle hogs with less time and labor. University of Kentucky tests show that confined hogs required 15% less man hours of labor than those on pasture. Pasture can be put back to profitable crop production.



SET UP FOR HIGH-PROFIT HOGS

CLIP-MAIL TODAY

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
2108 Michigan National Tower, Lansing 8, Michigan
A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete

Please send free booklet, "Concrete Improvements for Hog Raising." Also send material on subjects I've listed:

NAME

ST. OR. R. NO. CITY STATE

We request that such conferences be continued. We would encourage the Citizenship Committees of our County Farm Bu-

Farm Bureau's Proposals for Better Living

They Outline Our Program of Work

We present the third and final installment of the Resolutions on State Affairs adopted at the 41st annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau at Michigan State University November 9-10-11, 1960. The first and second installments of the Resolutions on State Affairs were published in our editions for December 1 and January 1.

Predatory Animals

We recommend the retention of present bounties on predatory animals.

Quail Hunting

We oppose any attempt to institute an open season for quail.

Raccoon Season

We believe that consideration should be given to eliminating the closed season on raccoon until the excessive population has been reduced.

Intoxicated Hunters

We suggest that the Governor issue a proclamation prior to hunting season, calling attention to the dangers of hunting while under the influence of intoxicating beverages. Laws covering such action should be strictly enforced.

Apple and Cherry Commissions

The Governor's Advisory Committee on Reorganization of State Government has recently recommended that the Economic Development Department, the Tourist Council, the Michigan Apple Commission and the Michigan Cherry Commission should be merged to form the nucleus of a new state agency to be known as the Michigan Department of Commerce.

Both the Apple Commission and the Cherry Commission are financed exclusively by funds contributed by the growers of those fruits. Certainly the administration, programs and money of these two agencies should not be co-mingled with other activities which are supported by tax revenue.

We protest this revolutionary proposal and urged that it be dropped or at least that these two grower-financed programs should not be included in any such reorganization project.

Dep't of Agriculture

We again express our gratification at the fact that Michigan has one of the finest Departments of Agriculture laboratories to be found anywhere in the nation. However, it cannot function to the best advantage without necessary funds for both equipment and personnel. This matter should have prompt legislative attention and action.

U. P. Lab

We recommend that the Department of Agriculture establish a testing laboratory in the Upper Peninsula for the purpose of quantitative and qualitative analysis of animal feeds, seeds and fertilizer, and animal disease diagnosis, as a means of providing essential laboratory services for the Upper Peninsula.

TB & Bang's Control

Cattle constitute a very important segment of Michigan's agricultural economy. Herd health is of vital significance to both farmers and consumers.

We are gratified that the progress which has been made in eradicating bovine brucellosis and urge that adequate funds be appropriated by the Legislature to continue this program to completion. Any slow down would result in a greater ultimate cost.

This situation was illustrated by what happened in connection with T.B. in Michigan's herd. Because the needed money was not provided, testing fell behind schedule and soon the disease had begun to reappear in serious proportions.

We must not again let it get out of control. It is too serious both to farm owners and the consuming public to permit that to happen.

Authorities agree that the most economical and effective control of bovine brucellosis can be accomplished through vaccination between the ages of four and eight months of all heifers kept for breeding purposes. We recommend such a program to be carried out on a voluntary basis.

Licensing and Meat Inspection

An existing statute makes it a responsibility of the Michigan Department of Agriculture to inspect slaughterhouses for proper construction and sanitation. However, it frequently happens that a slaughterhouse operates for a considerable period of time without ever being inspected because the Department or Agriculture has no record of its existence or location.

We urge that each slaughterhouse be required to be licensed by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. This would make its location known to the Department and would facilitate enforcement of regulatory laws.

Undoubtedly, most consumers suppose that the meat, which they purchase at retail has been inspected by some appropriate agency. That is not now the case except in the limited proportion of meat which is federally inspected.

We urge that legislation be enacted providing for ante mortem and post mortem inspection by the Michigan Department of Agriculture of those meat animals slaughtered in Michigan which are not under federal inspection.

Farmers slaughtering or having slaughtered livestock and poultry for their own use should be exempt from the above provision. Since this would be a service to the consuming public it should be furnished by the State rather than by the industry.

Seal of Quality

We renew our endorsement of Seal of Quality legislation for Michigan-grown farm products and urge that the Legislature should no longer delay action on this program which has the endorsement of all the general farm organizations in the state and of many commodity groups whose growers would like to utilize its provisions in the more profitable merchandising of their products.

We again emphasize that any program which would encourage and reward the production and preparation of agricultural products of desirable and dependable quality would prove equally beneficial to growers and to consumers.

We would point out that the proposed legislation would provide an entirely voluntary and self-supporting program, with the revenue from the sale of seals financing the inspection and administration.

While Michigan has been marking time in this field, several other states have enacted legislation incorporating our ideas and have been benefiting thereby.

St. Lawrence Seaway

The St. Lawrence Seaway is important to Michigan agriculture and will continue to gain in importance in the future. Problems arise, however, as foreign ships enter Michigan ports.

These ships may carry insects, diseases, and other pests which are not now in Michigan, but are potentially extremely dangerous to Michigan agriculture.

Inspection must be provided by the Michigan Department of Agriculture in addition to that being done by U.S. officials.

We urge the Michigan Legislature to appropriate necessary funds for inspection work at ports and air fields into which foreign shipments arrive. Consumers are also vitally interested in this problem because the food

supply could be endangered if these pests are allowed to gain a foothold in Michigan.

Japanese Beetle

For the past several years the Michigan Department of Agriculture has done a remarkable job in keeping the Japanese beetle under control. Neighboring states, notably Ohio, have not done as well and this very dangerous and costly pest is invading southeastern Michigan.

The alert trapping program carried on by the Michigan Department of Agriculture has located this beetle in portions of Monroe and Lenawee counties. Unless prompt action had been taken, this beetle would soon have become so widely established in Michigan that control and eradication would have been a virtual impossibility.

We commend the Michigan Department of Agriculture for going ahead with the necessary spraying program even though the Little Legislature turned down its request for emergency funds, and money had to be diverted from other highly important programs, notably the control of cattle diseases.

The funds so transferred should be promptly restored by the granting of a deficiency appropriation by the Michigan Legislature early in its 1961 session.

Damage by Birds

Starlings and red-wing blackbirds are causing increasing damage to fruits, vegetables, grains and other crops.

We ask that this problem be recognized before the damage becomes widespread and that research in control measures be undertaken at Michigan State University and in other appropriate institutions.

Potato Industry

We favor legislation to establish a promotional program for the Michigan potato industry for the improvement of the quality and the marketing of Michigan grown potatoes to meet the competition of out-of-state potatoes.

This program would be administered by the Michigan Department of Agriculture with the assistance of the Michigan Potato Industry Council. This would be a self-help program and would be financed entirely by voluntary grower assessments.

Date for Beans

The take-over date for Michigan navy beans on which a federal loan has been received is now February 28. March and April are the best months for selling Michigan navy beans. In all bean producing states, with the exception of Michigan and New York, the government take-over date for navy beans is now May 1.

We urge that the take-over date for Michigan should be extended from February 28 to May 1.

Agriculture's Bargaining Power

Wholesale purchasers of food and fiber are becoming fewer and larger. As this trend continues the bargaining power of the farmers declines. To remedy this situation, vigorous action needs to be taken. Ways must be found to give agricultural producers a stronger voice in determining the terms of trade for the commodities they sell.

We urge the Board of Directors and Staff to develop and implement a plan whereby a strong bargaining position could be gained. This effort should be directed in a way which could take maximum advantage of the leadership and resources of the American Agricultural Marketing Association.

School Building Plans

It is mandatory that school building plans must be submitted to the State Department of Public Instruction for approval before bids can be obtained.

Written approval from the State Fire Marshal cannot be obtained at that time, but when the building is partially constructed the State Fire Marshal must inspect the building and make necessary recommendations for changes on the basis of his interpretation of the school building code.

This may cause several months' delay in completion of the building and also additional expense to the taxpayer.

We support legislation to provide for combined action of above mentioned State Departments so that final approval of plans may be obtained prior to letting of bids. This will elimin-

ate delay in building and additional cost to taxpayers.

Egg Law

Per capita consumption of eggs has declined over the past several years. Recognizing that it is necessary to assure uniformly high quality eggs in order to build consumption, we recommend that the present Michigan egg law be revised to require such changes as would assure the desired high quality.

Michigan Men at Nat'l Council Of Co-ops Convention

L A Cheney of Williamston was elected to the 63-man board of directors of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives at the 32nd annual meeting at New Orleans, Berkley I. Freeman of Grand Rapids was re-elected to the board.

Mr. Cheney is secretary of the Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Cooperatives, and Mr. Freeman is manager of the Great Lakes Cherry Producers Marketing Cooperative.

The National Council of Cooperatives is a nation-wide association of farmers' marketing and purchasing cooperatives. One of its resolutions urged clarification of laws to make it clear that farmer cooperatives have the right to merge, to form joint selling agencies and other means to assure farmers equality of opportunity.

Another resolution endorsed action by the Federal Trade Commission under the Robinson-Patman Act against food handlers when an industry-wide basis rather than against individual handlers when an objectionable practice is industry wide.

The Council will support legislation to protect producers of perishable goods against losses caused by stranger picketing and other activities by labor organizers who do not represent the employees of the producer.

Edwin F. Steffen, general counsel for Farm Bureau Services, Inc., attended the Council meeting as chairman of the transportation committee. He served on the resolutions committee, and served as a member of the legal and tax committee.

Ward Cooper and Noel Stuckman of Michigan Farm Bureau's Market Development Division, attended the Council meeting to get information for farmers in their fields.

Mr. Cooper is coordinator for Farm Bureau for livestock and field crops market development. Mr. Stuckman is coordinator for fruits and vegetable market development.

Activities of Farm Bureau Women

(Continued from Page 5)

Plans were made to send at least 20 Charlevoix women to the Freedom Conference in Lansing.

The Camp Kett project will receive \$115 from our group.

Cheboygan County Farm Bureau Women use potluck dinners to draw good crowds to their meetings and did so at the home of Mrs. Jack Savella in January. Most of the time, after the business meeting, was spent in planning a benefit party to be held in the Topinabee Town Hall, Saturday evening, January 28. The proceeds will go toward the Camp Kett project. Announcement of the "Freedom Conference" February 7 and 8 in Lansing was made.

Emmet County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met in the Alanson School for the January meeting. Chairman Mrs. Arno Hartenstein feels that we do not have as many Farm Bureau women attending District meetings as we should and urges each one to ask another and help make plans to share the ride and take carloads. Since every Farm Bureau woman is invited and welcome many are missing these fine and informative meetings.

Ossego County Farm Bureau Women have had their program planning meeting and would like speakers on politics, gardening and safety. We will ask Mrs. Vance to give us a report on her Denver trip and one month we will all visit Mackinaw Island.

We will have a winter social with a cake walk to attract a good crowd to help pay for our

Secretaries of Agriculture at Farmers' Week Forum Feb. 1



Benson Brannan Anderson Wickard Wallace

FIVE SECRETARIES of the U. S. Dep't of Agriculture—from 1933 to 1961—will take part in a Farmers' Week Forum on "Agriculture in an Uneasy World" at Jenison Field House at Michigan State University, Wednesday, Feb. 1, starting at 1:30 p.m.

Admission to the 12,000 seat Field House will be free to both a reserved section, near the Camp Kett buttons.

District 11-E

Mrs. Clifford Postma, Chm. Rudyard

DELTA COUNTY. As a result of election in Delta County on January 3, Mrs. John Olsen was elected President of the Women's Committee. Mrs. Vincent Rapetti was selected to serve as vice-chairman and temporary secretary.

Report of sale of Camp Kett buttons was given and plans to sponsor the showing of "Communism on the Map" were made.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY Women's Committee were guests of the local television station, CJIC-TV in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario. After a very interesting tour of every room, from storage files to the control rooms, including the radio studio, the group appeared "live" for approximately 25 minutes.

District 11W

Mrs. Ken Corey, Chairman Stephenson R-1

Houghton County Women's Committee met January 4th at the home of Mrs. Gilbert Juntunen with 4 groups present. Projects for the coming year were discussed and 100 Health Identification Cards were ordered. Mrs. Gilbert Juntunen was elected Safety Chairman.

Menominee County Women's Committee met December 14, 1960 at the home of Mrs. Leonard Veeder of Bark River with five groups present—three absent. Mr. Hugo Kivi, Regional Representative, was present.

Public Health Nurse Miss Irene Larson of the Menominee-Delta Health District spoke to the group on the services performed by her department.

The Women's Committee will send Michigan Farm News to all high school libraries and county libraries as one of their projects. Camp Kett project was completed.

Women's Committee were pleased to have the opportunity once again to serve Michigan Milk Producers Annual Meeting lunch. The meeting took place on January 26, 1961. Chairman Mary Ellen Kane and her committee completed plans for the luncheon.

No man is useless in this life if he lightens the burden of it for someone else.

Mail Coupon For Free Soil Test Bags

JOHN SEXSON Services Plant Food Division

It pays to determine the fertilizer analysis you should use and the amount per acre through a soil test.

Mail the coupon below for free Farm Bureau Soil Sample Bags. You'll need 1 bag for each flat field, 5 bags each rolling field. Have your fields soil - tested at one of 52 County Soil Test Laboratories.

Advise the lab management the crop and the yield per acre you're driving at. Apply fertilizer on basis of need for the crop.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc. Fertilizer Plant Food Division P. O. Box 960, Lansing, Mich.

Please send — Soil Sample Bags.

Name _____
Street No. & RFD _____
Post Office _____

Wieting Heads Farm-City Week for '61

The National Farm-City Committee for 1961 will be headed by Maurice Wieting, vice-president in charge of information and education of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. He has been active in the planning and direction of Farm-City activities since its inception six years ago.

Howard Tuttle, of the Tractor and Implement Division of Ford

Motor Company, will serve as vice-chairman.

Farm-City Week in 1961 will be observed November 20-24, ending with Thanksgiving Day.

Michigan Farm Bureau participated in the organization of the Farm-City movement six years ago and has been a consistent supporter. Dan E. Reed represents Michigan Farm Bureau as a member of the National Board.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS February 1, 1961

FARMERS PETROLEUM EARLY ORDER DISCOUNT

OIL SALE

ORDER EARLY AND SAVE!

Now's the time... place oil and grease orders for spring delivery. These Farmers Petroleum discounts mean more money stays in your pockets. Top quality UNICO oils, all weights - all size containers.

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UNICO'S Multi-purpose grease... never stiffens or melts... your best buy for every grease job. Order it by the cartridges for easier handling or the economical 25-lb. lug pails.



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FARMERS PETROLEUM 4000 NORTH GRAND RIVER AVE. LANSING, MICHIGAN

Notice of Annual Meeting

FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.

The annual meeting of the policyholders of the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its office, 4000 North Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 22, 1961, beginning at 1:30 for the following purposes:

- 1—To receive reports from officers and management.
- 2—To elect directors.
- 3—To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

February 1, 1961

BLAQUE KNIRK

Lansing, Michigan

President



UNICO Ac-cent PAINT

36 decorator-keyed colors will give your home new inside beauty—Unico Ac-cent Acrylic Latex Paint offers every shade from delicate pastels to rich deep tones—each one color-perfect for your decorating scheme. Why not roll or brush-on new beauty today—Unico Ac-cent!

\$5.95 Per Gal. \$1.75 Per Qt.



- ★ Applies with brush or roller
- ★ Dries in one hour
- ★ Leaves no painty odor
- ★ Covers any surface
- ★ Washes easily

See your Farm Bureau dealer TODAY!



1961 Legislature Gets Under Way

(Continued from Page 1)
for lake shipping. This would provide for greater utilization and expansion of foreign markets. Our present native market areas could be expanded to include more of the large eastern consuming centers, especially the larger eastern seaboard markets. I, therefore, also recommend that a full time marketing transportation specialist be provided for this task.

Fair Trade Practices. Definitely endorsing a proposal which is being developed with Farm Bureau support the Governor said:
"I further recommend adoption of a self-financing fair trade practices act for the Michigan dairy industry. This would stabilize dairy prices at the consumer level and assure uniform rates to processors and producers by preventing unfair trade practices."

Classes for Migrants' Children. Another idea which the Farm Bureau has promoted received the Governor's endorsement. This involves a pilot study to provide, on an experimental basis, elementary education classes for the children of migrant farm workers during the summer months of 1961. The Governor remarked, "The recommended cost of this study, \$15,000, would be more than repaid in benefits to the Michigan communities in which between 50,000 and 100,000 seasonal workers are employed."

State's Money. With reference to Michigan's money matters and fiscal situation, the Governor declared flatly, "Michigan's revenue problems have not been solved." He went on to state:
"In my inaugural address I stated emphatically that Michigan needs thorough fiscal revision—a revision that is fair, equitable, and adequate to meet the legitimate needs of an expanding population."
"This revision must provide

adequately for the urgent needs of local government. And, most essential, it must be a fiscal revision that will both encourage and stimulate the growth of our economy.

"Many studies have been made of our state's tax structure. Out of these studies have come a great number of recommendations. After careful review and study of these recommendations, I will present to you in a special message my program to revise our interrelated state and local tax structures to the end that the revenue needs of state and local governments will be accommodated while promoting the best economic interests of our citizens."

Senate Organization. In the organization of the Senate for the coming two years, the Republican old-timers were somewhat rebuffed by a combination of first and second term Republicans and the twelve Democratic members. The controversy came into focus over a determination as to which Senator should serve as chairman of the powerful Senate Business Committee which acts on all resolutions and recommends the approval or rejection of all appointments to public office submitted by the Governor.

By a vote of 20 to 13, a slate of committee assignments recommended by the Committee on Committees was amended to place second term Senator John W. Fitzgerald, of Grand Ledge, in the chairmanship of the Senate Business Committee in place of Senator Arthur A. Dehmel, of Unionville, who had been proposed by the Committee which had worked out the slate of assignments.

After that change had been made, several other shifts were agreed upon in an attempt to distribute responsibilities and honors equitably.

As finally agreed upon, the membership of some of the committees of greatest interest to rural people is as follows:
Agriculture: Litwack, Pres-

cott, Dehmel, Hilbert, Miron, Lane.

Appropriations: Porter, Beadle, Graebner, Dehmel, Francis, Stephens, Thayer, Lane, Miron.

Conservation: Prescott, Greene, Stahlin, Hilbert, McManiman, Novak.

Education: Francis, Beadle, Stephens, Schweigert, Radio, Doyle.

Highways: Nichols, Graebner, Dehmel, Milliken, Hilbert, Bloddy, Steeh.

Senate Business: Fitzgerald, Prescott, Morris, Beadle, Steeh, Zenzel.

State Affairs: Greene, Smeekens, Geerlings, Feenstra, Schweigert, Beerling, McManiman.

Taxation: Geerlings, Morris, Feenstra, Younger, Ryan, Rozyccki.

In addition to the eight committees listed above there are eleven other standing committees of the Senate.

House Committees. As this report is being prepared, the membership of the House committees has not yet been announced with the exception of the Committee on Ways and Means which handles all appropriation bills. It will be composed of the following Representatives: Engstrom, Phillips, Hungerford, Cyril H. Root, Lohman, Bassett, Sobieski, Newton, Warner, Erlandsen, Mielock, Copeland and Beadle.

Are They Stacked?

A Look at White House Conferences

DAN E. REED
Associate Executive Counsel
Michigan Farm Bureau

In December, 1960 Governor Williams appointed me as one of the 72 delegates to represent Michigan at the White House Conference on Aging which was held in Washington January 9-12, 1961.

In looking over the list of delegates from Michigan, I was struck with the fact that I was the only person coming from a farm organization background, and actually about the only person representing rural people. Only about two other Michigan delegates seemed to have any rural interest.

Most of the delegates could well be classified as persons interested professionally in rendering service to older people or were officially listed as retirees. Many are on public payrolls, and several were identified as representing the AFL-CIO.

Before I arrived in Washington, newspapers carried a story quoting Wilbur Cohen, of the University of Michigan, as saying that the Conference was

"stacked" by the American Medical Association.

As I met and talked with other delegates in Washington and saw lists of resource people, chairmen and discussion leaders of the various groups, I became convinced that the Conference was "stacked" but not by doctors.

Rather, it was overloaded with people who either were on the payrolls of government agencies or voluntary agencies, or were representatives of retiree groups. It was not a cross-section group of citizens of the United States. Instead, it was gathering together interested in rendering or receiving services for older adults.

The White House Conference on Aging was not a "conference," but was a series of separate "conferences" (10 groups divided into 20 sections, and further subdivided into more than 140 separate work groups.) Efforts to make it appear that the Conference agreed on any particular subject have no foundation in what actually happened.

The January 19 issue of Michigan AFL-CIO News headlines "Social Security Approach Wins Conference OK." The financing of medical care for the aged was the subject assigned to one work group of one section of one of the ten groups into which the Con-

ference was divided. Approximately one-tenth of the delegates to the Conference took part in this discussion.

This was one of the larger work groups in the Conference and was subdivided into smaller sub-groups. It is interesting that not a single one of the sub-groups failed to list at least one official union labor representative as a leader, recorder or resource person.

The only doctors given official responsibilities in this area were two county welfare board members and one employee of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, hardly a disinterested participant.

National Organizations. The discussion in my work group had to do with programs which national organizations interested in older adults might consider. It was a good discussion; little that was controversial entered our deliberations. Apparently this was true in many of the groups. Our chairman permitted no discussion of areas of financing since this was reserved to other sections.

Much good thinking was done during the White House Confer-

ence. In the final sessions of the Conference the reports of the ten over-all groups were read. No action was taken; no voting was permitted at this level.

It was my feeling that the device of holding White House conferences provides a potent propaganda tool. The White House Conference on Aging developed from a resolution passed by the Congress requesting the President to call such a conference. It would be difficult for a President to ignore such a request.

General specifications for the Conference were laid down in the resolution. Natural selection assures that those attending the Conference will be people who have been most interested in providing services for those who are specified in the conference heading.

Recent White House conferences have focused attention on youth, education and safety. There is now a suggestion that a White House Conference on Agriculture be called.

These so-called "cross-sections" are not cross-sections of our citizens but are vertical selections which bring together

those particularly interested in the program and usually those interested in providing more services at federal expense.

I came away from Washington wondering whether our American way of life can survive. This Conference was called to consider problems of the aging. Who can fail to respond to the picture of lovable, pathetic older people obviously requiring various kinds of help? Who can be so bold as to paint the other side of the picture?

The person reaching 65 who finds himself perhaps in the best financial position of his life—children have been educated and are on their own and dad and mother have probably more financial freedom than they have ever enjoyed.

Contrary to the picture painted by many, there is evidence to show that most of our older adults are in relatively good physical condition and are not limited in their activities by illness. They are able to pay for such health care as they need.

The question I asked myself was: Can the American people keep a balance between the need for incentives to do for ourselves

and the essential needs of persons who are overtaken by true disasters which they cannot meet alone?

This last condition has little relationship to age and may actually be most severe during the period when families are growing up and seeking an education. Efforts to use the propaganda appeal of a White House conference to solve national problems made me glad to leave the Washington scene.

Young Adult Conf. Scheduled for Feb. 6

A Young Adult Conference will be held Feb. 6th at Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The conference is being conducted to urge young people to become active in local and county government activities.

The Family Program Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau have an outstanding program planned for this conference and are urged all young adults that are interested to attend.

Gulf Stream

The Gulf Stream averages 100 miles in width, is about a mile deep, and moves at an average speed of 3 miles per hour.

RADIO

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| Adrian | WABJ | 1 AGENTS WANTED | 15 FARM FOR SALE | 23 LIVESTOCK | |
| Saturday 12:15 p.m. | | | | | |
| Albion | WALM | AGENTS - Part-time farmers, barn builders, farm cement contractors, dealers, making extra profits. Sell Acorn high-speed gutter cleaners, barn equipment, new Acorn big capacity egg unloaders, egg coolers. Some territory still available. Investigate now. State occupation, where you live. Write Ottawa-Hitch F2321, Holland, Michigan. (6-60-14-46b) 1 | FOR SALE BY OWNER. 320 acre heavy prairie, 265 acres tillable, 2 barns, 150 miles Chicago, truckyards. Land contract, \$500 cash. Harmon Crap, Deatur, Michigan. Phone GSA 3-3742. (Cass County) (2-11-25p) 18 | BROWN SWISS BILLS for sale. Sire by Lewis Hill Gopher M.-V-3. One year old. Dam's records, 3 year, 305 day, 16,200 M. 609P. 3 months old. Dam's record, 4 year, 365 day, 17-12 M. 727F. Krauss & Gregory, Sebawing, Michigan. (Huron County) (2-11-41p) 23 | |
| Alma | WFYC | TRUCK FARM for sale, by owner, including truck land, irrigation system, storage buildings, sales building, orchard. All equipment, good markets. Easy terms. Carroll Building, 717 South Broad Street, Belding, Michigan. (Ionia County) (2-21-25p) 15 | TRUCK FARM for sale, by owner, including truck land, irrigation system, storage buildings, sales building, orchard. All equipment, good markets. Easy terms. Carroll Building, 717 South Broad Street, Belding, Michigan. (Ionia County) (2-21-25p) 15 | REGISTERED GUERNSEY BULL, 21 months old, sire of Grandview Royal Aristocrat. Also, Himmler milkster, like new, and New Holland 70 baler in good condition. Strawberry Farm, R-4, Blaine Road, Brighton R-2, Michigan. Phone Hartland 3772. (Livingston County) (2-11-41p) 23 | |
| Alpena | WATZ | 3 BABY CHICKS | 10 ACRES for sale, with house, 6 room ranch home, large utility room, washer, dryer, carpeted living room. Hot water heat, asbestos roof. Garage attached. Good well. Telephone. Four and one-half gill west of Rogers City on M-58, one-half mile south. Paul Curtis, Rogers City, R-1, Box 41, Michigan. (Presque Isle County) (2-11-46p) 15 | MAPLE SYRUP EQUIPMENT and supplies. Order your galvanized buckets and covers early to be sure you get the best. Also, mechanical systems of tubing in stock. Repairs for all makes of boiling equipment. Stainless steel evaporator at our warehouse. Point delivery. Secure all your items in February. Your reliable and complete equipment and supply warehouse since 1924. Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109 West Saginaw Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Ionia County) (2-11-45b) 22 | MAPLE SYRUP EQUIPMENT and supplies. Order your galvanized buckets and covers early to be sure you get the best. Also, mechanical systems of tubing in stock. Repairs for all makes of boiling equipment. Stainless steel evaporator at our warehouse. Point delivery. Secure all your items in February. Your reliable and complete equipment and supply warehouse since 1924. Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109 West Saginaw Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Ionia County) (2-11-45b) 22 |
| Ann Arbor | WPAG | CONSISTENTLY TOPS. Franchised dealer for Ideal H-3-W's, the "Champ" Egg Producer today. Ask us why. Baby pullets \$40 per 100, 1,900 or more \$35 per 100. Also, Darcy DX. Prepaid or delivered. Zeeland, Michigan. Phone 3697. (Zeeland, Michigan) (10-14-52b) 3 | 15% ACRES on hardtop. Two miles north of US-112. Modern two apartment house, asbestos roof siding. Garage. New oil steam turbine last September. Mr. Robert P. Reiser, 12001 Manchester Road, Clinton, Michigan. Phone Gladstone 6-4704. (Washtenaw County) (2-11-24p) 15 | MAPLE SYRUP EVAPORATORS: All sizes available from 100 buckets to 2,500. See the new type stainless steel evaporator pans now available. Be sure. Order your new evaporator before the end of the sap season. Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109 West Saginaw Street (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (Ionia County) (2-11-45b) 22 | |
| Bay City | WBCM | BABY CHICKS, AND STARTED PULLETS. Pay us a visit. See over 2,000 Zanth's Ghostly Pearls and Earl's White Rocks in our 2 and 3 story houses. Automatic egg grader, egg washer, and Mammoth incubator, and reports of all Random Sample Tests. No order too large or too small. Sterling Poultry Farm & Hatchery, Sterling, Michigan. (Barry County) (2-11-52b) 3 | CERTIFIED GARRY SEED OATS for sale. Also, one Black Hawk Corn Plant, 3 point hook-up. Used very little. Price \$125. Otto Metz, 16151 Canal Road, Mt. Clemens R-1, Michigan. (Macomb County) (2-11-24p) 17 | FOR SALE—Used King Evaporator, size 40 inches wide by 14 feet long. A real bargain. Rated capacity 1000-1200 buckets. New blue pan still in factory crate. Balance of evaporator used. Arch to be rebuilt by purchaser. Equipment can be inspected at our warehouse. Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109 West Saginaw Street (M-43) Lansing, P. O. Box 1107. Phone IV 9-6336. (Ionia County) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Benton Harbor | WHFB | BLUE DIAMOND WHITE ROCKS. (Breeder direct). Limited supply fine New Hampshire. Can also supply these heavier as started chicks if desired in advance. MacPherson Hatchery, Haynor Road, Ionia R-3, Michigan. (Ionia County) (2-11-27b) 3 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Big Rapids | WBRN | BABY CHICKS, AND STARTED PULLETS. Pay us a visit. See over 2,000 Zanth's Ghostly Pearls and Earl's White Rocks in our 2 and 3 story houses. Automatic egg grader, egg washer, and Mammoth incubator, and reports of all Random Sample Tests. No order too large or too small. Sterling Poultry Farm & Hatchery, Sterling, Michigan. (Barry County) (2-11-52b) 3 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Charlotte | WCER | 9 DAIRY EQUIPMENT | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Cheboygan | WCBY | RITE-WAY MILKING MACHINE for sale. Complete with two single stainless steel units. In good condition. Albert Hoffmann, 1300 S. 10th St., Michigan. (Grafton County) (2-11-20p) 9 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Clare | WCRM | FOR SALE—Delaval cream separator. No. 618. Built 5 years ago. Used very little. Price \$50. Clifford Johnson, Middleville R-2, Michigan. (Barry County) (2-11-24p) 9 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Coldwater | WTVB | 10 DOGS | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Dowagiac | WDOW | ENGLISH SHEPHERD PUPS from our own good working stock. Born September 15. Already interested in stock. 816 bears. (A. F. Harvey, 1000 Springport, Michigan. (Jackson County) (2-11-22p) 10 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| East Lansing | WKAR | THERE'S JOY in the canine world these days. The word is getting around fast. Your Farm Bureau dealer has NEW Dog Food, and a terrific! It's Farm Bureau "Premium" Chunk. (11-80-17-25&6b) 10 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| East Lansing | WKAR | 11 FARM EQUIPMENT | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Escanaba | WBDC | IRRIGATION PUMP, electric, 20 horsepower, 3-phase. Used 22-40 volts. 600. 1 1/2 hp. 100 feet. Marvin G. Smith, Holland R-2, Michigan. (Ottawa County) (2-21-21p) 11 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Gaylord | WATC | 13 FARM MACHINERY | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Greenville | WPLB | LAMBERTON IMPLEMENT SERVICE at Niles and Decatur, Michigan, offer full line of J. L. Case and New Idea Farm Tractors, parts, and service. Also, good used tractors, and gasoline engines. Niles phone MU 3-0711. Decatur phone GA 3-2848. (2-11-46b) 1 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Hancock | WMPL | FOR SALE - Slightly used set of Air Lift Springs made by Air Lift Company at Lansing. Will fit Cadillac sedans, 1930 through 1956. Edsel 1958 and 1959. Ford years 1946 through 1958. Lincoln 1955-1957. 1956-1957. Contact Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109-11 West Saginaw Street, (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-46b) 18 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Hastings | WBCH | FOR SALE - Slightly used set of Air Lift Springs made by Air Lift Company at Lansing. Will fit Cadillac sedans, 1930 through 1956. Edsel 1958 and 1959. Ford years 1946 through 1958. Lincoln 1955-1957. 1956-1957. Contact Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109-11 West Saginaw Street, (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-46b) 18 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Hillsdale | WCRR | FOR SALE - Slightly used set of Air Lift Springs made by Air Lift Company at Lansing. Will fit Cadillac sedans, 1930 through 1956. Edsel 1958 and 1959. Ford years 1946 through 1958. Lincoln 1955-1957. 1956-1957. Contact Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109-11 West Saginaw Street, (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-46b) 18 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
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| Iron River | WIBK | FOR SALE - Slightly used set of Air Lift Springs made by Air Lift Company at Lansing. Will fit Cadillac sedans, 1930 through 1956. Edsel 1958 and 1959. Ford years 1946 through 1958. Lincoln 1955-1957. 1956-1957. Contact Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109-11 West Saginaw Street, (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-46b) 18 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
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| Kalamazoo | WKPR | FOR SALE - Slightly used set of Air Lift Springs made by Air Lift Company at Lansing. Will fit Cadillac sedans, 1930 through 1956. Edsel 1958 and 1959. Ford years 1946 through 1958. Lincoln 1955-1957. 1956-1957. Contact Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109-11 West Saginaw Street, (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-46b) 18 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 |
| Lapeer | WMPC | FOR SALE - Slightly used set of Air Lift Springs made by Air Lift Company at Lansing. Will fit Cadillac sedans, 1930 through 1956. Edsel 1958 and 1959. Ford years 1946 through 1958. Lincoln 1955-1957. 1956-1957. Contact Sugar Bush Supplies Company, 4109-11 West Saginaw Street, (M-43), Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-46b) 18 | FOR SALE—400 or more used plastic sap bases, 30 cents each. Roy Thomas, 1224 1/2 Street, Lansing, Michigan. (Lanshaw County) (2-21-20p) 22 | FOR SALE—Complete maple syrup making equipment includes King evaporator, size 40 inches by 12 feet, used two years, capacity 800-1000 buckets. Gathering tank, mechanical tapper, storage tanks, etc. All in excellent condition. Orville Stahl, Clarksville R-1, Michigan. Phone AL 1-UN 8-2291. (Ionia County) (2-11-45p) 22 | |

Can Our Rising Property Taxes be Reduced?

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for February

Background Material for Program in February by Our 1489 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

Why do farmers bite their nails and tear their hair over property taxes? Is there really anything to get excited about?

Let's judge the farmer's reaction in the light of some facts. Property taxes bite into incomes already squeezed until they squeak. Prices paid by farmers for farm supplies rose 14% from 1950 to 1959. But farm property taxes rose 56% in that time.

The depth of the bite becomes clearer if we look at the record of tax rates per acre paid by Michigan farmers. In 1942 it was 42c per acre. By 1956, it had become \$1.32 per acre. In 1959 it hit an all-time high of \$1.75 per acre. So it goes.

The tax per unit of land is not, however, the best cue to the depth of the bite. Taxes are paid out of income. Back in 1945, real estate taxes took only 2.6% of the Michigan farmer's net income. The percentage rose to 6% in 1955. In 1959 it became 10%.

Is that unusual? Well, during these same periods non-farm property owners gave up only 3% to 4.5% of their incomes in property taxes. Urban businessmen paid the personal property tax but the average city wage earner was by-passed in regard to this tax.

City people may say correctly, "Well, we paid more in income taxes." Non-farm people paid 10.6% of their net incomes in taxes in 1955. Farm people paid only 5.6%. Their net incomes are lower.

But this did not help local government revenues much. Oh, sure, the Federal government might make a grant to a local government for some special project — IF — the local government would match it. And often this forced more local taxing and spending to do the matching. It did not help farmers reduce their property taxes.

Why Farm Property Taxes Go Up

Various conditions are forcing farm property taxes to the point of distress:

1. **Suburban expansion** is rapid into the farming areas. As urban people settle the land, demands for services increase. The needs are reasonable—schools, streets, water systems and sewers, police and fire protection, etc. These things cost money to develop "from scratch."

2. There is often a delay of a year or so in getting new properties onto the tax rolls. In the meantime, there are farms already taxable. They must "pick up the slack."

3. **Then the farmer** is hit again when the assessor puts a higher value on his property than on residential property of equal market values. Studies show that this has been quite a common practice. The assessor sees the small city lot—then the broad acres of the farm. He tends to overestimate the farm value and underestimate the residential value.

4. If the farm lies near a city, it is often valued in terms of its use as subdivision property rather than as farming land. This is often done well before there is any actual market for the land as lots. The damage to the farmer is severe. The farm cannot earn the taxes and stay in business.

These expanding suburban areas are a real problem here. In them farm taxes were 11 times greater in 1955 than in 1940. In purely rural areas, farm taxes were only 3½ times greater in the same period.

Some assessors have paid no attention to the capacity of the land to earn income when setting their valuations. Low-producing land in northern Michigan has been assessed and taxed in some cases so that it becomes tax delinquent. In all cases where this happens land is removed from farming that might better be left in production. Unworked land can earn NO taxes.

5. The rising market value of farm land also tends to push assessed values upward. This has been partly a matter of demand for land to make farms large enough to be efficient. But inflation in the economy has also boosted land prices.

Taking everything into consideration, the increasing "tax

bite" on the farmer is very real.

Effects of State Equalization Formula

Some farmers tend to put the whole blame for their tax predicament on the use of state equalized valuations. This practice may play a part in the problem, but it is not always a cause of rising taxes.

Using the state equalized figures does increase the "tax base" of a local government unit, but does not necessarily increase the tax burden. Local government may be able to adjust the tax rate downward so that no increased taxes occur. But quite a few local governments may not reduce the millage. Under the 15 mill limitation local or county equalized valuations may have prevented them from collecting enough to cover their needs. With state equalized valuations they can pick up more revenue without violating the 15 mill limit. So — in a sense — this somewhat weakens the protective power of the 15 mill limitation.

Local Debt and Bonding

The state equalized valuations also increase the borrowing power of local governments. Borrowing limits are based on state equalized figures.

If more money is borrowed, higher property taxes are insured for some years to come to pay off the debt. Bonded debt is a lien against property. In many of our Michigan local governments the voters have approved extra millage, beyond the 15 mill limit, to provide schools and other government services.

The increased tax rates resulting from bonded debt could be serious in case of a recession. Property can be left vulnerable to tax delinquency with rates high.

State and local governments have increased their indebtedness faster than the national debt has grown. State and local debt rose 275% from 1946 to 1956. Debt of this sort is now heavier than in 1929—just before the depression of the 1930's.

School Problem

More and more children need schoolrooms. More and more families move into rural school districts. Schools create the heaviest load on property taxes. Even six years ago, schools were using 60% of all property taxes in agricultural districts, and 71% in the expanding "urbanized" districts.

It is a fact that farmers are generally taxed more heavily for school developments than non-farm families. School and other local government expenses have risen faster than state-aid. In

recent years the state Legislature has had to appropriate money from the General Fund to add to school operating funds.

In some areas property taxes on farms have "cracked the sound barrier" for school support. State-aid money just does not build new schools. Areas with low property tax base have been forced deeply into debt—and many have hung out the sign "Help Wanted!"

Are Property Taxes Fair?

One of the oldest problems in taxation is finding a tax process that satisfies everyone as "fair and equitable".

People use different yardsticks to argue about fairness. What they often mean is that "the other fellow is never paying enough and I am paying too much!" But what are the "yardsticks"?

1. There is the idea that taxes should be paid by the people who receive the benefits of services provided. Well,—yes and no.

It is sensible to expect that taxes will be spread among as many people as possible. The load should not fall on a few while others go scott-free.

There are those who cannot pay taxes or cannot pay as much as others. Take the people who receive welfare, for example. They get the benefits. If they had the money they wouldn't need them. Only if they had the money could they then pay taxes. If they get welfare and have the money—then something is out of focus.

2. Another idea of being "fair" suggests that everyone should have an EQUAL share of the tax burden. The protest—"Should the man with two Cadillac and a yacht pay no more than the fellow who has trouble keeping gas in a Crosley?" The average man turns thumbs down on this idea.

3. Many people find the idea of taxing according to "ability to pay" a popular one. The main protest against this is that it becomes a form of socialistic economic leveling. If carried to the extreme a few would pay most of the taxes. This would destroy the initiative to earn and create wealth—the very thing that makes a broad tax base possible.

Our Tax Base Is Changing

Farm incomes were once the chief source of earning power in the nation. But now over 65% of our national income is in wages and salaries — which are not linked to property as is the farmer's income.

Non-property-owning wage earners have more money in the clear on the average than most farmers can boast after paying their farm production costs. The principle of "ability to pay" which is so strongly stressed in the income tax is forgotten when taxes are imposed on the farm as compared to urban residences.

Regardless of how you judge "fairness" it is clearly unfair when a tax burden threatens to or does, deprive a man of his property and destroys his means of earning a living.

New Sources of Local Revenue

You can tax wealth in three ways: You can take it from what people own, from what they earn, or what they spend.

Levels of government compete for the existing forms of taxable wealth. The Federal government took "first call" on the most productive source of revenue,—personal and corporate incomes. State and local governments sometimes complain that this cuts down their tax base directly and indirectly. Indirectly because money paid in income taxes would be spent or invested locally, thus increasing local taxable wealth.

State government has its finger on such revenue sources as the sales tax, utility taxes, vehicle and gasoline taxes and a wide variety of special taxes. Many of these are "shared" with units of local government in state-aid.

Little wealth has been left in the clear for local governments to tax directly, except for real estate and personal property. And more than 95% of all local revenues in Michigan come from property taxes.

Local governments in some states have experimented with local sales or business taxes. They cause trouble. They often drive business and trade out of the county. Neighboring non-taxing counties benefit.

Many of these special taxes are too complicated and too costly to administer locally.

Discussion Topics

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

- Mar. Issues on the Ballot in the April Election.
- Apr. Issues of Farm Labor and Child Labor on the Farm.
- May Proposals for Changes in the Program of State Taxes.
- Jun. Studying the Teaching Program of Our Schools.
- Jul. Why Farmers Need a Public Relations Program and What is Being Done Now.
- Aug. Farm Markets and the Importance of Foreign Trade.

Be sure to read your discussion article in the Michigan Farm News. Attend your Community Farm Bureau meetings. THEY ARE THE KEY TO UNITED MEMBER ACTION.

ally. Bookkeeping, auditing and enforcement often eat up the revenues collected. But property taxes are rather simple to administer locally.

With some sort of relief for property taxes quite necessary and with local governments unable to collect enough to keep going, the question becomes:

Where to Turn?

Some have suggested that property taxes be done away with entirely. That would be an extreme action,—probably unwise and unnecessary. An easing and a proper adjustment of loads is all that is needed.

If such taxes were abolished, then local governments would have to depend entirely on state and federal aid, lacking other wealth to tax locally. Money distributed by the big government units comes with strings attached—requirements, regulations and controls.

Local control will depend on keeping the fullest degree of local financing that is reasonably possible. But some increase in state-aid may become necessary. The state can collect some forms of tax efficiently which local governments cannot.

What Tax Is Possible?

Even before the new increase in the sales tax was put in force, clamors began to rise for a share to be passed along to local governments. With the state deeply in debt and short of money, this scarcely seems a practical nor sensible answer.

Proposals have been made to establish and levy new forms of state taxes and earmark them for local governments. The aim would be to take the pressure off property taxes. Such a program would ease the pressure on the farmer and save him from being taxed off his farm.

Taxes on payrolls and corporation profits are often suggested. Should we tag business and industry with more taxes? The Federal government takes 52% of corporation incomes now.

If new taxes on business were imposed by the State, industry might not move present plants out of the state, but many could decide to do their expanding in other states where the tax climate is more favorable. A good tax program should not hinder the economic growth of an area. Overtaxing can prevent the needed industrial expansion that creates new jobs for new workers.

State Income Tax?

A proposal has been made for a state income tax. The money could be returned to local governments and school districts.

Many farmers have cocked a quizzical eye at the idea. They fear political strings attached to the money. They often do not see how it can bring property tax relief and think of it simply as another tax.

The idea has some merits. The burden of a state income tax would be relatively light on farmers,—while property taxes are heavy. Net farm incomes are below the average for the population. Food grown and consumed at home is not counted as income. Farm housing is not considered income.

If local governments received this money, local people could reduce the property tax rates. Funds from the state income tax could pay off the bonded debt and take property off the "tax hook."

Or perhaps you can think of some better way to climb out of the pickle barrel.

4 Farm Bureau Groups Place In Contest

Four Community Farm Bureaus were among the winners in the 23rd annual West Michigan Community Cooperation Contest (formerly the Farm-to-Prosper Contest) in 1960. Prizes were awarded at the annual Round-up climaxing each year's contest, held in Muskegon Senior High School auditorium.

Prize awards were bestowed on winners by Walter W. Wightman, president of Michigan Farm Bureau. All types of rural community organizations participate in this program for rural advancement. It is carried on by the Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, and Ottawa counties.

Anything an organization does for itself, for the community as a whole, for youth interests, and the interest it takes in county, state, national and world affairs counts in the contest.

Among the winners in 1960 were Friendly Community Farm Bureau, which placed first in Oceana county; Progressive Community Farm Bureau, second in Newaygo county; Central Community Farm Bureau, third in Newaygo county, and North Chester Community Farm Bureau, second in Ottawa county.

The contest is carried on through the county Extension Service offices. A board of trustees representing agriculture, business, the press, and schools of each county formulate overall policies.

Business organizations of the five counties contribute the \$125 prize money to each county. This money is divided \$50, \$30, \$20, \$15, and \$10, with framed certificates of award. The Sweepstakes winner received an additional



JOHN HAGA, left, receives award for Friendly Farm Bureau as first place winner in Oceana county in the 1960 West Michigan Community Cooperation Contest. Walter W. Wightman, president of Michigan Farm Bureau, presented awards at the Round-Up in Muskegon.

Nebraska Votes Increase in Dues

Delegates at the 1960 annual meeting of the Nebraska Farm Bureau voted to increase the annual dues from \$10 to \$20 beginning with the 1962 membership year. The division will be \$12 for the Nebraska Farm Bureau, \$1 to the American Farm Bureau, and \$7 to the County Farm Bureau.

\$100, provided by the Greater Muskegon Chamber of Commerce.

Ferrysburg Parent-Teacher Association, Ottawa county, was Sweepstakes winner for 1960.

The Round-Up is an afternoon of entertainment and fellowship, to which all members of competing organizations, their families, and friends are eligible. State leaders of rural life attend.

Dr. George E. Davis, director of adult education at Purdue University, interpreted the poems of the famed Hoosier bard, James Whitcomb Riley, and told anecdotes of his life.

Eighty rural community organizations participated in the contest in 1960. They included Farm Bureaus, Granges, school and church groups, and independent organizations.

Sargasso Sea

The Sargasso Sea in mid-Atlantic is so named from the abundance of sargassum weed floating over a calm area of water.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
8 February 1, 1961

FARM FORUM
Community Farm Bureau
Discussion Topic

Radio Station WKAR
1:00 P. M.

1st Monday each Month
September through June
870 on Your Dial

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Mr. Ken Wagar, well known Kalamazoo County farmer, and his 350 acre farm.



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