Predicted Crowd Takes Part

When plans were announced for "the largest crowd ever" to attend the Annual Meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, there were those who doubted that large numbers of Michigan farmers could tear themselves away from pressing Fall work to attend. But when the voting delegates and guests began to arrive, it became obvious that the planning committee was right, Michigan farmers had lost none of their interest or enthusiasm in supporting Farm Bureau.

A large crowd took part in the unusual "open session" of the Resolutions Committee — a period of free-wheeling discussion and debate on issues included in the "proposed resolution" booklet compiled by the committee from hundreds of resolutions submitted by counties.

Farm Bureau Women re-elected Mrs. Wm. Scramlin to another term as chairman of the Farm Bureau Women's Committee and named Mrs. Clare Carpenter of Cass City, vice chairman.

Three incumbent directors did not seek re-election. They were Walter Wightman, Fennville, in the position of Director-at-Large; Max Hood, Paw Paw, representing District 1; and Edmund Sager, Stephenson, representing District 11.

Elected to the at-large position after a number of ballots was Robert Zeeb, young Clinton county dairyman. Elected director from District 1 was Francis Finch, Mattawan, Van Buren county. Elected from District 11 was Clayton Ford, Cornel, Delta county.

Zeeb was selected Michigan's most Outstanding Farmer in 1963. Finch served with distinction as delegate to Michigan's Constitutional Convention. Ford serves as Delta county Farm Bureau president.

Re-elected to serve additional two-year terms were: Donald Ruhlig, District 3; David Morris, District 5; Kenneth Ball, District 7; Eugene Roberts, District 9 and Raymond Kucharok, representing Farm Bureau Young People.

The three-day session was climaxd by the passage of a comprehensive slate of resolutions to guide farmers in state and national actions in the 1966 year. A complete text of these resolutions will be carried in the January issue of the FARM NEWS.
FREE FARMING

Search as they may, no one will find America's abundant farm production in any country of the world where agriculture is under the strict control hand of a central government. This is due to the annual appeal to the annual address of Michigan Farm Bureau president Elton Smith before the recent 46th annual meeting. "Steady and increasing cost of living?" the world lie in Communist-controlled areas of Asia," Smith remarked those present.

Even as he spoke, Radio-Liberty announced monitoring a Moscow report telling of planned abandonment of the Soviet Union's 'Virgin Lands Territory' as an administrative unit, signing a possible end to this heart breaking and impractical project.

The move affects an area that a few years back swarmed with millions of Soviet youth impressed agricultural production project to relieve its chronic grain shortage.

The young men and women lived in tents at 50 slow toasts as they droned in the dust of first Stalin, and later, Khruhachev, to cause the Kazakhstan, Western Siberia, Ural and Volga regions to bloom with flourishing crops of wheat and other cereal.

The gamble of destroying the root-cover and plowing under the thin layer of fertile soil in the virgin lands—an acre the size of California, Arizona, and Colorado combined, paid off with bumper crops in 1956 and again in 1958.

But drought, progressive impoverishment of the upturned marginal soil, and wind erosion, combined with bureaucratic bungling in attempts to correct the problems, led to five years of decreasing yields, terminating with the 1963 crop failure, which many think led to the downfall of Khruhachev.

For as the virgin lands project entered the 1960's, it became increasingly obvious that Khruhachev had underestimated the scope of secondary measures needed to keep the area productive, particularly irrigation and the planting of forest belts to reduce wind erosion. Parts of the once-fertile lands became a "dust bowl.

Perhaps corn was the answer, and it was a winning Nikita who hid his concern as he fingered the road leaves, measuring the hard ears and stumped through the fields followed by newsmen and his worried threatening of off their land. He breathed on corn, and delivered some of his own, and finally, loaded with every manner of producible, the political at the conference. He returned to the Soviet Union and the impossible problem of trying to fit American production knowledge and techniques into the antiquated agricultural system buried under nearly a half-century of communist controls.

After the relatively good harvest of 1964, the virgin lands region seems to have passed another cycle of "five lean years" -- judging from the extent of Soviet wheat purchases this year. It has become obvious that the region will not meet its harvest quota this year, the heart of the Midwest at Chicago. On even-numbered years the four-day convention is held at such distant spots as California, Georgia, Philadelphia (last year) and Las Vegas (1967).

This year the convention will again be held in Chicago, in the Conrad Hilton Hotel -- formerly the Stevens, on the dates of December 13-16, Monday through Thursday. A Vesper Service will open the informal convention program Sunday afternoon, December 12, followed by a "Talent Display" presented by Farm Bureau Young People, including an entrance from Michigan.

On the years when the convention is relatively nearby, it is usual for Michigan Farm Bureau members to take advantage of the fact by attending in greater numbers, adding considerably to the five or six thousand-member crowd of farmers from all parts of the United States.

Special buses are planned for those attending from Michigan, leaving from Lansing through arrangements made by the "Community Programs" department of the Michigan Farm Bureau under the direction of J. Delbert Wells. For hotel and bus reservations, contact should be made direct with Mr. Wells.

All meetings of the convention will be held in the Hilton, including the Vesper Service scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Sunday, December 12. American Farm Bureau Federation members are urged to reserve their room by giving their annual address Monday, December 13.

Nationally-known speakers are scheduled on the general convention program, including Senator Everett Dixton, Senate Minority Leader, from Illinois; a director of the Crime Division of the F.B.I.; and Roger Fleming, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The final two days of the convention will be devoted to business sessions, the adoption of resolutions to guide the organization in 1966 and the election of members to the A.F.B.'s board of directors.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Information Division has been asked to assist in televising portions of the convention for nation-wide news coverage.

Well known: Walter Woells, Michigan's Conservation Director; Wayne Wightman, Michigan's Wheat Director; Warren Espy, Michigan's Oilseed Director; More than 133 Michigan members have been asked to act as "wells" in the program.

Michigan Farm Bureau is one of America's strongest cards in the game of world diplomacy.

"As farmers we have to make this message heard across the land, for, surely no one else will voice this truth for us.

M.W.
President
Smith Says:
"WE MUST TAKE A CRITICAL LOOK..."

"There has been a great void in program-building in most County Farm Bureaus" - warns Elton Smith, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau. In his annual address given before the recent 46th annual meeting, Smith called for a "frankly critical look at ourselves."

He said that farmers must build fences around the pitfalls which have prevented them from being as effective as they should be. Other significant statements from the speech which American Farm Bureau president Charles Shuman called the "best State President's annual address I have ever encountered" - follow:

- Christ warned against the folly of "putting new wine into old bottles," and we are getting some "new wine" ready. But first we must dispose of a lot of old bottles.
- One big bottleneck is the way we run our county Farm Bureaus. A good county Farm Bureau must be structured for success. It must be made up of successful officers and committees. It must have successful activities which attract membership and finances. This successful county Farm Bureau will then become the true "voice of agriculture" in that county. It will represent producers' interests, it will be active legislatively, it will involve members in many local programs and projects.
- In the very least, the membership should represent a majority of all farmers in the county. The membership must be made up of successful officers and committees. It must attract membership and finances. It must be made up of successful projects.
- How many times during a normal year does the average Farm Bureau member come in contact with Farm Bureau - for reasons other than getting his membership certificate?
- How does your county Farm Bureau board spend the time in its meetings? Do they start late? Are they jammed with trivial decisions that make them end up at midnight and beyond, without really getting much done?
- If we are honest with ourselves, we will admit that many county boards have done more of the "thumb-twiddling" sort of things than serious program building. It is remarkably easy to get caught in the technicalities of keeping an office going, and most of us have been guilty. We spend entirely too much time deciding whether to have ham or chicken at a dinner or picnic or debating for a half hour whether to pay some little bill.
- In their own way, these things are important, but much of it is committee work and concentration on such things by the entire board is not the way to build a strong Farm Bureau.
- Instead, boards of directors are designed to guide the action and the development of their organization, to work at the hard tasks of policy and purpose. True, they must administer the finances and the offices, but the basic work of the board is to develop and implement action programs to increase farm incomes and to make the community a better place for farm family members to live. If you don't do this, your county Farm Bureau is on the way out. One sure way to tell is by asking the pointless way in which we establish committees in many counties.
- We name committees in many cases, whether we need them or not, whether there is important work for them to do, or whether they are simply "standing" committees without definite assignment. It's a misuse of time and talent to appoint standing committees. They should be working committees, with definite assignments, with budget, if needed, to carry out that assignment, and with a return home attached to their projects.
- They should be expected to report, and that should be told when. The chairman of the committee should be hand-picked for the job. The job should be big enough and important enough to tax his talents. The people picked to work with him should be of equally high calibre. Finally, when the job is done, the committee should be dissolved.

Even if it means undoing some of what has already been done, we should start this year to set our course. It means a rethinking of the program need, picking the kind of committee leaders that will make our programs move.
The Spirit — and the Fact of our report to you for the year just past, can be summed up in this statement: "Farm Bureau is moving ahead."

And as President Smith has indicated, this forward motion was given a great boost by this delegate body on the 16th of November, 1965.

Our Michigan Farm Bureau Information Division is at work making a survey of public service television time on which to tell our story of American farming. The picture looks favorable and we are getting ready to move as finances make such programs possible.

What is the important point that we can learn from this? This membership gain was partly the result of member-dedication, member-loyalty, and the strong will to grow.

But the real key to the advance was that better programs attract more members. Good programs give members good reasons to join. Good programs at the county, state and, yes — at the national level — programs must be financed. It is at this stage we now stand.

And "Let's Go" — is the watchword for all of us in this upcoming meeting today, and for years to come. In the Michigan Farm Bureau we have already made a number of necessary moves in this direction. We have begun to expand our Field Service force to give added aid to county Farm Bureaus in program building in the member's home community.

Program building in the county is going to be one of the biggest factors in the advancement of our organization in terms of membership, public participation, and membership activity.

President Smith stressed the importance of such local program-building in recognition that the real strength of a county Farm Bureau lies within that county. Some members have been critical toward their local Farm Bureau for being "big farmer" oriented — that it will overlook or ignore smaller farmers.

These concerned members have only to remember that they are Farm Bureau. They help make the decision! This remains true even as we look ahead to a new kind of farming and a new kind of Farm Bureau.

In the face of the same financial problems. However, I can say that these programs will advance rapidly as we resolve the financial situation which prompted the calling of the Special Meeting in August. We shall move ahead just as fast as improving finances make such movement possible.

But even now we are moving on a number of vital fronts — and each of these moves bears within itself a tremendous potential for improved farm income.

One dramatic example is found in the millions of bushels of windfall apples which lay in heaps on the ground under trees of many orchards. This dropped fruit, for which there were no pickers — almost at any price, represents many thousands of dollars of lost income in the difference between fresh-apple prices and the price for windfalls, if indeed any market could be found in time.

In other parts of Michigan, the fields were yellow with ripe cucumbers — left to rot in the fields long past the pickling cucumber stage, because of lack of pickers. No matter where one looked in Michigan this past harvest season, the story was much the same. And when farmers pleaded with Washington, they were told that the problem was imaginary.

We, in Farm Bureau, must study and work out the best possible solutions. The government may regain control of an adequate labor supply to do the necessary field work and harvesting of our crops before they are lost to both the farmers and to the consuming public. It is evident that we cannot rely on the gift labor to do a responsible job in this area.

An investigation of the farm labor situation is about completed by our Market Development Department.

After many years of struggle, we now have a Michigan Beam Commission to aid in the marketing of this important crop. Our Legislative and Market Development staff members worked as a team in each of these issues, leading a combined strength to our Farm Bureau effort. And although tax reform failed for this year, we did make a significant gain in this area. Farm Bureau initiated the idea of assessing farm land at farm land, as long as it is used for this purpose. Experience shows that it normally takes a while before such ideas bear fruit, but the seed is planted.

Farm Bureau supported the action reversing the state aid formula for schools, and although it involves a rather complicated formula, the result means more money for school districts, averaging a two and one-half mill saving on property taxes at the local level.

Districts with lower valuations will be receiving the largest amount of state school aid in history — and a distinct improvement over the state aid formula. Some county Farm Bureaus have been asked to take the active support of this formula, the result means more money for state school districts, averaging a two and one-half mill saving on property taxes at the local level.

We must never discount the many instances where Farm Bureau action has prevented the passage of legislation harmful to agriculture. Many undesirable tax measures, for example, were kept in the committee - measures such as one cutting gasoline refunds to farmers by five percent, and another to eliminate local tax assessors in favor of county or state assessors.
NEW PROGRAMS UNDERWAY

Others Crushed By Political Steamroller!

Nationally, a number of Farm Bureau proposals have been crushed, at least for now, under the wheels of the Administration, which Farm Bureau had opposed, is one result. Although designed to cover a four-year period, most Washington observers doubt that it will last anywhere near that long.

The tremendous $18 billion dollar price tag alone, is sure to cause second thoughts. We must remember that there is another Congress in 1966 — that laws can, and often are, changed. This new farm program is nothing more than the same kind of program that has failed us in the past.

Economics education and local political action are two key programs in our moves toward voter understanding. Our Community Programs department has done exceptional work in this important direction. Last year 70 Farm Bureau members and affiliated organizations built service and supply programs to keep pace with the needs of the modern farm. But cooperatives, like other successful year and has given our company an interest in the farmers. So, he passed this bill. The reports of those who attend these conferences speak for their value.

All of these activities must be built on a basis that will perpetuate Farm Bureau as the farm organization through which these objectives will be reached. The finding of potential leaders, training them, and involving them becomes our challenge and responsibility.

Our Young People's Committee is dedicated to this task. Eighty young couple Community Groups, 200 young farmers in informational meetings, 30 young couples at a 3 day seminar are part of this program.

The challenge is in the counties—to put these young folks to work, in Farm Bureau. They will solve some of these problems. If we give them just half a chance.

Value is found too, in the programs of our cooperative service affiliates, as they build service and supply programs to keep pace with the needs of the modern farm. But cooperatives, like the farmer, face the impact of inflation, rising labor and other operating costs.

Cooperative mergers, expansions, and improvements become a necessary requirement to their existence. All of these things have expanded in the last year. However, margins had to be shaved sharply to help your local farmer-cooperatives be competitive. At the same time you can imagine what would happen to the prices farmers would pay for supplies and service without this competition.

The Egg Marketing and Michigan Elevator Exchange divisions continue to grow rapidly. The Elevator Exchange markets more grain and beans on a world front than any other marketing operation in Michigan! Farmer's Petroleum had another successful year and has again expanded its operations. New production was purchased to give stability to the program, and a new division—one for "Contract Vegetable" crops. To be included in the new division are pickling cucumbers, snap beans, peas, carrots, peppers, red beets, green lima bean and cabbage. This new division will allow producers of contract vegetable crops to negotiate with processors, using MACMA's proven techniques. We are planning a membership campaign for the new division, and from all appearances, the new division will soon be self-supporting.

If the road ahead were simply a path of "sunshine and daisies", farmers could forget the need for a strong farm organization such as Farm Bureau, and there would be no need for these "many new activities in which we are engaging. But farmers are realistic. We know there will be storms and heavy financial weather ahead, in a future that requires united action.

Perhaps this is one of the most ignored, but most important reasons for forming Farm Bureau. Together, the future looks bright. Separate, failure is obvious.

The ancient scientist-philosopher, Archimedes, was the first to prove that the world was round — that we live on a globe instead of an unending table-top. He declared "Give me a place to stand on, and a place to rest my lever on, and I can move the earth."

We in Farm Bureau have determined where we stand.

The lever that gives power to our action is our will, and our skill to do what needs to be done. The power of Farm Bureau will increase to the degree that we unite in placing leverage behind our programs.
"Long Live the Queen"

Two-dozen candidates from as many Michigan counties, provided judges with an almost impossible task at the "Queen" contest held as part of the recent Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

"Miss Eaton County" — lovely 19-year-old Miss Janet Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hill, was selected from among a field of six finalists which included Vivian Schulte, Turner; Shirley Hearm, Wheeler; Mary DeVooght, Marquette; Carol Maxwell, Hope, and Linda Kay Anderson, Six Lakes.

MISS JANET HILL

Janet, who calls herself a "tomboy" helps out on her parent's farm near Vermontville where she drives tractor and helps make part of the hay necessary for a herd of beef cattle. A Freshman at Alma College where she is majoring in elementary education, the raven-haired and hazel-eyed beauty has plans for working in the field of special education for the handicapped.

Earlier this year she participated in the Vermontville Maple Syrup festival. Since accepting her crown, she has made a number of radio and television appearances at stations in Lansing, Jackson and Detroit. Her picture has been carried by a state-wide wire-photo service.

"FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE" TO AGRICULTURE

The stimulation of good debate, the excitement of competition, the enjoyment of good food among good companions, all these were values and impressions gained as part of the 40th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, November 9-11.

The competition produced "Talk Meet" and "Talent Find" winners, a new Farm Bureau Queen and a slate of vigorous Farm Bureau officers for positions on the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors.

The debates resolved into an impressive slate of 125 policy resolutions which will guide the organization in months ahead, while the food and jovial visits meant new friends gained.

Miss Jo Ann Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Erickson of Whittemore, took top honors in the talent competition with a solo rendition of "Moon River" sung in a style which Miss Erickson describes as "a slow and easy kind of music."

Mike Satchell, 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Satchell of rural Caro, impressively argued the case against government controls from the viewpoint of a young farmer, convinving the judges of a "superior" rating and the first place award in the "Talk Meet" program. Both successful contestants win expense-paid trips to the American Farm Bureau annual meeting in Chicago in mid-December.

Those attending the main banquet program saw awards for "Distinguished Service to Agriculture" presented by Michigan Farm Bureau president Elton Smith to three recipients present at the event, and another award made "in absentia" to an honored person who was unable to attend.

Selected for this highest distinction of the Michigan Farm Bureau were: Charles J. ("Jack") Little, Extension Dairy Specialist from Chatham, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula; Radio newsman, Robert N. Runyon of station WILS, Lansing, former Women's Coordinator for the Michigan Farm Bureau, Mrs. Marjorie Karker, and Mark Westbrook, long-time Ionia Farm Bureau and farm leader.

In making the presentations Smith pointed out that the awards were the result of a desire on the part of Michigan farmers to underscore the work of those individuals, who by their thoughtful actions have contributed much to the welfare of Michigan agriculture.

He pointed out that nominations were made by many farm education and cooperative groups who joined county Farm Bureaus in suggesting the names of persons with outstanding service records.

Runyon was cited for his significant news analysis and editorial comment. His years of experience as a foreign correspondent was mentioned as helping him gain insight and understanding of problems which farmers face locally, nationally and on the international scene.

Mrs. Karker's many years of work with Farm Bureaus brought her many distinctions, Smith said, pointing out that "nationally she was recognized as one of if not the most outstanding Women's Program Coordinators in the United States."

The leadership Mark Westbrook has shown in the fields of farm credit and marketing were highlighted, with Smith citing a significant progress noted in the Upper Peninsula's Smith said in making the award to Charles Little. "With it not for his work and foresight, there is no doubt that farm incomes in the U.P. would be substantially less."
When Dale and Mary Weidmayer of Washtenaw county joined Farm Bureau in early September, they didn’t know that theirs would be the FIRST membership application to reach the Michigan Farm Bureau for 1966.

Not that it would have made any difference, for to the newly-married Weidmayers, joining Farm Bureau was just as natural as working together. "After 4-H and Future Farmer activity, joining Farm Bureau was the next logical step for us," they said.

And as most successful farmers, the Weidmayers are logical people. This month Mary will receive her degree from M.S.U.'s School of Education, majoring in mathematics. Dale met Mary while exhibiting dairy calves at the state fair. Later they attended Michigan State together, and were married last summer.

The Weidmayer farmstead is a cluster of neat, red buildings huddled around a neat, white home. There is orderliness everywhere. When he came home to farm in 1964, Dale became the fourth generation to farm on the home place.

Earlier, Dale had earned the Future Farmers of America "State-Farmer" degree. He and Mary are active in the Bridgewater Lutheran Church where Dale teaches Sunday School. They work together in the Farm Bureau Young Farmer program.

“Our folks have always enjoyed the Farm Bureau spirit of cooperation which helps farm people get things done. To us, Farm Bureau is an adventure in cooperation, and as far as we're concerned, that's a good enough reason for anybody to keep an ACTIVE membership.”
Mrs. Alex Kennedy.

to right): President Elton Smith, Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Mrs. Jerold Topliff, and past state chairman, Mrs. Margaret Muir and

the newly-formed Public Information and Understanding Committee, which "promoted the agenda of agriculture completely and often, so the public accepts and understands," as one of their important roles.

He stressed the need for a "positive attitude and faith in the future" on the part of Farm Bureau Women to keep the voice of agriculture strong.

State chairman, Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, in her annual report to the women, listed highlights of the 1965 year including: new media dinner-meetings featuring Mrs. Haven Smith, chairman of the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee; the Washington Air Tour, Speaker's Bureau, the newly-formed Public Information and Understanding Committee, and the fine work of the Safety Committee.

NEW VICE CHAIRMAN

Heading the Farm Bureau Women's Committee for the next two years will be Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, re-elected at chairman, and Mrs. Clare Carpenter, elected vice-chairman. Mrs. Carpenter replaces Mrs. Jerold Topliff, whose term ended this year.

The new vice-chairman is from Cass City, Tuscola county, where she and her husband operate a dairy and general farm. They have three children, one married, two at home, and one grandchild.

Mrs. Carpenter (Florence) has long been active in Farm Bureau. She has served as Women's district vice-chairman, Community Group discussion leader, Roll Call manager, Information Committee chairman and as a member of the state Resolutions Committee.

She is active in 4-H work, in her political party, and represents the Tuscola Farm Bureau on the Christian Rural Hospitality Council.

Past state chairman, Mrs. Esther Kennedy, Alpena county, and Mrs. Marvel Whittaker, Leelanau county, conducted the installation of officers.

LITERACY VILLAGE REPORT

"Living and Learning in India" was the topic of Mrs. Litta Roberson's address. Dressed in an attractive native costume, the energetic Litta told of her experiences in Literacy Village, India.

Not satisfied to "sit and rock" following her retirement from the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation as Women's Director, Litta embarked upon an "adventure in humanity." Each experience of this adventure provided her audience with an exercise in emotions—from humor to horror, near-disbelief to spiritual revitalization, pride in womanhood personified by Litta, and a sense of inadequacy when viewing the deeds of this dedicated woman.

The women who had left their bright, modern kitchens that morning to attend the meeting marveled at the thought of having to prepare and serve a meal with one pot, one ladle and one water container which serves the needs of each family in the India villages. They were shocked by the custom of not washing babies for one full year after birth—and bringing the cows into the family dwelling each night.

The family in the unit-around which everything revolves in India, Litta reported, then, looking across the sea of faces which packed the Kellogg Center's Big Ten room, she added, "Of course, there are no meetings to go to in India."

The story of her efforts in health education, her work with the eye camps, and her very evident love of the people of India, was fittingly climaxed with a prayer. The prayer is used in the beautifully-simle chapel in Literacy Village where Hindus, Mo- hammadan, Christian and Muslim worship together.

In this chapel, they kneel in prayer recognizing a pool of light—of water which signifies Life. On the pinnacle of the chapel, reaching toward the sky, is a spire pointing to God.

It was with His help that Litta performed "miracles" in Literacy Village. That the blind may see, the sick become strong, the lost found, the hungry fed, the prayers of those kneeling in the chapel at Literacy Village will surely follow her wherever she may go.

The nearly 600 women who attended the 21st annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women, November 9, Kellogg Center, East Lansing, were urged to accept the challenge of a broadened role in the expanded program of the "New Farm Bureau."

EIGHT December 1, 1965

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women remind members that applications are now available for a $200 Practical Nurses' scholarship, awarded each year by the committee.

Requirements for the scholarship are: (1) the applicant must be a Michigan resident and a member of Farm Bureau, (2) must show proof of having been accepted by a School of Practical Nursing, (3) be willing to show financial need, and (4) submit a written application and be personally interviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

Application blanks may be obtained from Miss Helen Atwood, Michigan Farm Bureau, 4000 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Michigan.

The Practical Nurses' scholarship is one of three awarded each year by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women. A Michigan State University scholarship in the amount of $524, and a cooperative Elevator and Farm Supply scholarship for $100 are also available through the efforts of the County Farm Bureau Women's Committees.

In 1965, the committee consisted of: Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Holly; Mrs. Tom Wieland, Charlevoix, and Mrs. Robert Baceus, Lake Linden.

NEWS OF THE STATE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The nearly $500 granted to Michigan State University by the County Farm Bureau Women is being used to provide a $100 scholarship for the 1966 academic year.

Members of the state Scholarship Committee are: Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Holly, Mrs. Tom Wieland, Charlevoix, and Mrs. Robert Baceus, Lake Linden.

"COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK" — first copy off the presses — was presented by Elton Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau president, by Mrs. Wm. Scramlin (left), chairman, Farm Bureau Women, and Mrs. Jerold Topliff, outgoing vice-chairman, and "editor" of the cookbook, at the 46th annual meeting. It features Michigan-grown commodities.

LITTA ROBERSON — from Literacy Village, India, gave a report to the large crowd at the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's annual meeting, Nov. 9, of her experiences in the project they helped support. Also shown at the head table are (left to right): President Elton Smith, Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Mrs. Jerold Topliff, and past state chairman, Mrs. Margaret Muir and Mrs. Alex Kennedy.
FROM ALL OVER MICHIGAN

**Stormy is no Stopper**

Stormy weather and hazardous driving did not prevent the Farm Bureau Women of District 10E from attending their annual fall meeting, October 28. Sixty-six delegates gathered at the Milford Township Hall, where they were greeted by their hostesses from Alcona County.

Royal Call of the Market Development Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, presented a film on "Marketing - a Family Affair," and explained the activities of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA).

Following a potluck dinner, the women were entertained by the Alcona Community School mixed chorus. The excellent performance of the singers was a highlight of the meeting.

A report on county projects indicated that Alpena's two main activities were the "Plan-a-bool" program and the strawberry festival. Alcona's projects were the cancer fund canvas, and sending a girl to the Citizenship Seminar. Iosco reported on their work with the Hale Health Council, and Montmorency told of sending clothes to the patients of Traverse City Hospital.

Presque Isle participated in a trip to the Traverse City Hospital and served luncheon to the patients.

Women's "Country Kitchen Cookbook," featuring recipes made from Michigan-grown products, was introduced at the annual meeting. Sixty-six delegates received copies of the cookbook, which was compiled by the Women's Activities Committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Queen, Miss Janet Hill, was chosen "first runner-up." Miss Hill will represent the Michigan Farm Bureau at the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting in Chicago in mid-December.

**CONTESTANTS**

Entrants included: Alpena, Wilma Schultz; Arenas, Mrs. Virgie Galbavi to Mrs. Andrew Meyer, Calhoun county, at the display table outside the Michigan State University Auditorium, scene of the 46th annual meeting.

Miss Helen Atwood, coordinator of Women's Activities, announced the start of the annual fall meeting, October 28. Sixty-six delegates gathered at the Milford Township Hall, where they were greeted by their hostesses from Alcona County.

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**Gratiot "Tea 'N Talk"**

The annual Gratiot County Farm Bureau Women's rural-urban meeting attracted almost 300 farm and city women to the college campus at Alma, October 27. Neighboring counties Isabella and Ogemaw were represented, and Montcalm county brought 50 women to enjoy the afternoon festivities.

Mistress of ceremonies, Ruth Hooper, greeted the guests and introduced the Gratiot County Farm Bureau "Queen," Mrs. Craig Hearn, who told the city women about Farm Bureau and of the mutual concerns of farm and city women.

In the audience watching the regal blonde queen with wide-eyed interest was her five-month old son, Douglas. Mrs. Hearn represented Gratiot County at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual banquet in Lansing, November 10, and was selected "first runner-up" in the state Farm Bureau Queen contest.

Following a travelog on "Hawaii - our 50th State," by Mrs. Hearn, the audience adjourned for "tea and talk" — an informal part of the annual program which seems to be the favorite of both city and farm women.
A core of strong leaders in our Michigan rural communities, this is the objective of a new project about to begin at Michigan State University.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation regards this project as important — important enough to warrant a grant of $452,225 for a five-year training program.

Thirty leading young Michigan farmers have been chosen at the first of three such groups who will participate in a broad program of leadership experiences. The program is founded on the belief that rural people are aided in making sound decisions through a strong and well-trained leadership.

These young farm leaders will devote about thirty days each year for a three-year period to study, seminars, tours and travel, exploring the problems of agriculture and community life. The study tours will have state, national and international scope.

The Kellogg Foundation has underwritten the program to the extent of $5,000 for each of the chosen farm leaders, but no small part of the contribution comes from the young farmer himself. It is a small matter to provide for his absence from the farm to participate in classes or in tours that take him from his farm operation for periods from a week to two months.

There will be features in the program which include the wives of these young farmers, also.

Dean T.K. Cowden regards this as an important aspect of the program, since leadership involves sacrifice on the part of the whole family.

The thirty chosen were selected from a list of 170 candidates. It is pleasing to their many friends and co-workers in Farm Bureau to note that almost all have already established leadership attainments in Farm Bureau.

Our congratulations go to these young farm leaders from 26 Michigan counties:

- Allegan County, Wayne Schipper; Berrien County, Louis Kerlin; Benzie County, Don Stone; Calhoun County, Eric Fier; Cass County, James Fife; Clinton County, Robert Zeil.
- Genesee County, Donald Hill; Hillsdale County, Keith Brown and Mert Smith; Huron County, Vernon Kretzschmer; Ingham County, Stanley Fay and Marvin Lott; Ionia County, Lyle Clower; Jackson County, Mike Barton; Kalamazoo County, Jan Voelz; Kent County, Jerry Siewers; Leelanau County, Jay Tuggle.
- Leelanau County, Paul Scott; Lenawee County, Phil Hart and Howard Sikler; Mackinac County, John Kronenwetter; Manistee County, Calvin Lust; Midland County, Dirk Maxwell; Ottawa County, Ted Bonauf; Saginaw County, Ron Stuck; Sanilac County, Dan Landberg; St. Joseph County, James Glessner; Traverse County, John Laurie; Van Buren County, Stephen Shaffer; Wayne County, James Sargs.

To quote the author of "Beau Geste" — "Stout Fellas!"

Efficiency Award

An active Farm Bureau member, Norman Erickson, Colon, has been named one of the 15 top United States farmers to receive the Ford Motor Company's "Farm Efficiency Award for outstanding agricultural accomplishments."

Erickson, a member of the St. Joseph County Farm Bureau since 1949, won his award in the "Food Crop" division. On his 130-acre farm, he puts his management knack to work on grapes, peaches, apples, tomatoes, cherries, strawberries, asparagus and sweet cherries.

Highly mechanized, his farm uses air sprayers, air blast sprayers, fork lifts and pallets. He packages his crops carefully and keeps a high sugar content in his grapes and good color in peaches to get premium selling prices.

Winners of the nationally recognized awards are selected by the staff of the Ford Almanac, edited by John Strohm, internationally-known farm writer, in cooperation with other agricultural experts, based on the ability of farmers to accomplish exceptional management records.

The sponsors each year establish challenging goals of yield, cost and profit in 14 categories. The most recent records of farmers throughout the United States are then measured against the goals. In all cases, the 1966 winners exceeded the goals by a substantial margin.

Erickson will receive a number of awards to be presented at a banquet in his honor early next year in his home town.

Search For Names

The Michigan Elevator Exchange Division of Farm Bureau Services offers two awards of $25 each to members or to Community Farm Bureau who submit the winning "brand-name" for two grades of Michigan pea beans.

Twenty-five dollars will be given for the best brand name for the Michigan Elevator Exchange grade now named as "Michigan No. 1" — a grade containing beans having good color and low in foreign material or damaged beans. This grade is sold mainly to domestic canners, and to the export market.

Another $25 will go to the member or Community Farm Bureau who submits the best brand name for the Michigan Elevator Exchange's "Michigan Prime Handpicked" grade of pea beans. This grade has a fair color and has a minimum of damaged beans or foreign material. It is sold mainly to domestic canners, with very little going into export.

An example — the "Michigan Choice Handpicked" grade now packed for the consumer market by the Michigan Elevator Exchange carries the brand name "CASSE-ROLE." This brand is the top grade on the market.

Rules of the Contest

Eligibility:
Any person who submits a brand name entry for either grade of beans, as described, must hold a Farm Bureau membership for 1966, or any Community Farm Bureau entering the contest must be in active standing for the year 1965-66.

Employees of the Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliated companies, or of the County Farm Bureaus are not eligible to compete in this contest.

All entries must be mailed and postmarked before midnight of March 1, 1966. Mail entries to Donald Kinsey, Michigan Farm Bureau, Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

"Use" Reservation:
The Michigan Elevator Exchange division of Farm Bureau Services reserves all rights to use any brand name submitted for these grades of beans, or to use any other name which, in its judgment, may seem more desirable. But the awards will be given regardless of whether use is made of the submitted names or not.

How About This For A "Holiday Pick-Up"?

UNICO "REDI-GRIP"
The Tires with the Terrific Traction!

Season's Best Wishes From:
Farmers Petroleum Cooperative
4000 N. Grand River Ave. • Lansing, Mich.
Farm-Labor Sessions

Public versus private responsibility in dealing with farm labor will be one of the issues discussed at a “Farm Labor Management Workshop” December 16 and 17, Kellogg Center, East Lansing.

Farm employers will discuss problems associated with farm labor, such as management, recruitment and training, during the two-day conference which begins with 8:30 a.m. registration Thursday, December 16 and continues through Friday afternoon.

The workshop is sponsored by the Rural Manpower Center of Michigan State University, in cooperation with the Farm Labor Management Committee of the Michigan State Horticultural Society.

Speakers will include Frank T. Potter, director, National Farm Labor Service, speaking on “Labor Shortage — Fact or Fiction,” Norman Papsdorf, Michigan Department of Health, discussing “The Minimum Housing Standards Act,” and a number of Michigan State University personnel.

A 6:00 p.m. dinner, December 16, will feature Senator Sander M. Levin, Berkley. Michigan Farm Bureau personnel on the program are Dan Reed, Legislative Counsel, and James Rathbun, Farm Bureau Insurance.

According to Daniel W. Sturt, director of Rural Manpower Center, early reservations for the workshop are necessary. Interested farm employers may write to D. W. Sturt, Room 48, Michigan State University personnel.

Tightly-constructed concrete feed bunks hold finely ground concentrates. Durable concrete withstands the roughest treatment from stock and equipment, lasts a lifetime with practically no upkeep. Concrete bunks are easily adapted to automatic feeding systems.

Construction is fast, easy and economical. Ask your ready-mixed concrete producer or rural builder for details. Write for free copy of “Concrete Feed Bunks.”

Cut feeding costs with

CONCRETE
FEED BUNKS

“Concrete Feed Bunks”

Four times you’ll be glad you have Farm Interphone:

1. When you have a lot of work on your hands. With this two-way speaker-amplifier in your barn, you can carry on a phone conversation “hands free”—without even picking up the phone.

2. When your wife is busy—and you need to talk to her right away. A more compact version of the two-way speaker-amplifier... just right for the kitchen. Your wife can talk without taking her eye off the cooking.

3. When you’re in the yard, and an important call comes in. Stay with the chores, mister—this powerful two-way loudspeaker will bring you every word loud and clear. Ruggedly built for use in outdoor locations.

4. When every minute counts. An extension phone in your barn or other work area is one of the greatest time-savers ever invented. No more running to take or make calls in your house.

All this equipment, plus your regular home phone, is included in Farm Interphone service. For low rates and other information, just call our Business Office—or ask your Telephone Man.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
December 1, 1965
ELEVEN

The More You Use it... The Better it Pays!

When better earnings are realized through increased business, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative will share them,” said Carl Hensler, Calhoun County farmer and president of the cooperative. Hensler addressed more than 250 farmer patrons and guests at the annual meeting of the cooperative at Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, November 30th.

“We have a proud record of service extending for seventeen years,” Hensler said. “We know that our products are tops in quality and we fit our services to the needs of the individual farmer. The facts should prompt every Farm Bureau member to use the Farmers Petroleum Cooperative program.”

The facts in the annual report pointed to another year of expanding service and farmer acceptance. Major progress was realized in the sale of the new, modern “Custom” diesel fuel which led the quality market beginning with 1965. The volume of sales rose 17.1% for diesel fuel during the past year.

With more diesel power being used on the farm and with acreage being retired under government programs, the volume of motion of Power Balanced Gasoline was slightly lower than a year ago — a 2.1% reduction.

But other Farmers Petroleum products continued to expand in use. “Flame Balanced” heating fuels moved 2.1% faster. Tires and accessories found greater demand in the past year. Many new patrons were added — with 300 new users joining the program of Direct Delivery from refinery to farm.

The earnings of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative held up well during the year, in spite of the impact of price wars on gasoline and increases in operating expenses due to inflation.

Earnings of 16.8% were realized on the capital and equity held by patrons and stockholders. This meant a gain of 9.7% on the net worth of the cooperative if both of these gains are considered before the payment of federal income taxes.

P.F.C. has been able to pay 5% on “Class A” stocks and 3% to holders of deferred patronage certificates in 1965. Interest on debentures amounting to $105,955 has been paid. Maturity debentures to the amount of $116,210 have been redeemed as well as $44,030 in Class A stocks.

 Patronage earnings based on the business of the past year will be forwarded to patrons during this December.

Proven ability to train employees to render better service to farmer patrons have been stepped up during the past year.

Michigan Bell
Part of the Nationwide Bell System
SAGINAW PROMOTES SAFETY

FARM VEHICLE SAFETY — through the use of reflective signs for farm machines on the highway is being promoted by the Saginaw County Farm Bureau. Trooper Calvin Olmstead watches Agency Manager, James Erskine, place one of the safety signs on the tractor of Saginaw County board member, Elmer A. Rusch.

CORN PICKING CONTEST

ONE OF THE CONTESTANTS in the Michigan Corn Picking contest in trials prior to the national contest in Adrian, unloads his corn from the required four rows of picking. He awaits the judges' analysis based on samples taken behind his machine.

"TALK MEET" WINNER

MIKE SATCHELL, Tuscola County (center), won the "Talk Meet" with a convincing case against government controls from the viewpoint of a young farmer. Runners-up in the contest were Mrs. Janet Ravell, Montcalm, and Jon Jenkins, Ingham.

LENAWEE WOMEN SERVE

MIKE SATCHELL, Tuscola County (center), won the "Talk Meet" with a convincing case against government controls from the viewpoint of a young farmer. Runners-up in the contest were Mrs. Janet Ravell, Montcalm, and Jon Jenkins, Ingham.

NEW MFB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SERVING THE PRESIDENT — Michigan beef barbecue, Michigan milk, and a Michigan apple for dessert — is Mrs. Hope Sawyer, manager of the Lenawee Farm Bureau Women's food booth at the National Corn Picking Contest in Adrian. Ivan Hunt, Lenawee Farm Bureau president, was one of thousands of satisfied customers.

SINGER WINS

"TALENT FIND" winner for 1966 is Miss JoAnne Erickson, Whittemore. The young Tuscola County singer will receive an expense paid trip to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting in Chicago this December.
MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

MEMBERSHIP TRIP AWARDS

CERIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT — were awarded to "goal county" presidents (left to right): E. J. Hart, Alcona; Robert Aulie, Alpena; Raymond Cray, Iosco; Walter Polachek, Mackinac—Luce; Herman Rader, Marquette; and Albert Kunnen, Montcalm. The achievements awards were presented on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

HIGHEST PRECEN TAGE over "membership growth goal" was the honor bestowed on the Muskegon—Lake Farm Bureau, Walter Polachek, chosen to represent his county on the AFBF trip, receives congratulations from Glenn Sommerveld.

FIRST COUNTY IN MICHIGAN to reach membership growth goal by January 15 was Montcalm. Elwin Miller (left) will represent his county, the American Farm Bureau Federa- tion annual convention in Chicago.

THREE PRECEDENTS of county Farm Bureaus were honored for achievements in making membership gains. They were (left to right): Herman Rader, Montcalm county; Walter Polachek, representing Fred Turshank, MacKenzie—Lake, and Herbert Peppel, Bay county. Not shown is George Fleming, Oceana county.

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: 25 words for $2.00 each edition. Additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12 or $12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word one edition, two or more editions, 10 cents per word. Copy deadline: 20th of the month.

1 AUCTIONS
MISSOURI AUCTION SCHOOL, Free tuition 123-50, Laview, Kansas City, Mo.

6 DOGS
STARTED ENGLISH SHEPHERD PUPS
66x1129 catalog 1330-50 Linwood, Kansas City,

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MISSOURI AUCTION SCHOOL. Free

300-450 buckets to operate for us ex-

21 MAPLE SYRUP
DAIRYMEN—Use Perfect Balancer 8%-

22 NURSERY STOCK
STARK BRO'S NEW 150th ANNIVER-

26 POUlTRY
DAY OLD OR STARTED PULLETS—

34 WANTED
AT TENTION FARMERS—Get good

FREE EJ\ME
For every roll of Kodakolor Black

PILOT AN OYSTER SHELL
Feed free-choice to stop cash losses

MID COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK
Some hard-to-buy-for names on your Christmas list? Solve these problems with an attractive COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK, a welcome gift to anyone who enjoys good eating. 125 pages of recipes lusted after in the kitchen of the world's best cooks. Added feature—a clever celeri standard for ease in preparing the over 300 unique recipes. Get your order in now for several. This is a gift that will be enjoyed every day of the year. Contact your county Farm Bureau Women's Committee chairman, or write: Cook- book, Mid-Country Farm Bureau Women, 4000 N. Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.
We Must All Work Together

To---

TRACK DOWN A KILLER!

Soaring Death-Rates are a Local Problem!

American tradition has always prompted people within communities to rise to their own defense. When a "varmint" got on the loose, killing cattle and sheep, neighbors banded together to track him down and dispose of him. The hunt for the killer was an organized effort.

But now, the worst "killer varmint" in our history is on the loose in our rural communities. And the victims are not cattle and sheep. They are the people, themselves—folks who live right around home.

State Police records show that for the first seven months of 1965, deaths continued to increase on county and local roads. In August, they rose 8% over the previous year, while urban deaths by accidents decreased 28%. And the majority of the rural accidents and deaths involved people who lived right in the neighborhood where the accidents occurred.

The Farm Bureau Insurance Group responded with a well-defined "Save-A-Life" program this year. They provided a field safety engineer to help County Farm Bureaus develop a "Stop the Slaughter" campaign around our farm homes. If there is a ball to be set rolling, often the Farm Bureau Women (God bless 'em) give it a push. There comes word of plans for a Farm Bureau Women's Safety Conference in late January or February. The Women have already been making a close study of this ugly rural traffic record.

Sadly, there have been a very few of the county Farm Bureau boards who are willing to take hold of this Save-A-Life campaign. "Too busy! Too busy!"

Admittedly, we can chuck our tongues over the growing disaster. We can complain about rising insurance rates. We can do all this without taking time from our work. But it does take time to attend the funerals!

This rural accident and death record is a LOCAL problem. It will take action by LOCAL people to bring it under control. No one else will lift a finger to do the job.

The Save-A-Life program calls for the appointment of a local Farm Bureau leader to act as County Safety Director. A complete manual is ready to help him organize the work. He will need helpers—a Safety Committee. The delegates requested that the county boards set such a committee to work.

The Save-A-Life program has system. Numerous things need doing. The manual helps outline what to do. The committee will, of course, take things one at a time. What sort of things?

A study of the county accident situation launches the effort. Even local members can help contribute information on such accidents. Where, how and why do such accidents happen? What are the locations or crossroads? What conditions need correction to prevent these accidents from repeating?

Are there obstructions that need removing? Are crops, brush or trees making "blind corners"? Are broken road surfaces and bad shoulders endangering drivers? Do some roads need yellow lines at dangerous spots?

What were the conditions of the cars and drivers when the accidents occurred? Facts show where and what—and suggest corrections.

The Safety Committee should collect pictures, wherever possible, pictures of hazardous conditions—to support the action it will take to bring correction of a hazard. It can promote driver training education programs. It can help form "Teenage Safe-Driving Clubs" with film and instructional programs showing kids what to do in emergency situations. It can help promote the use of safety belts in cars.

When facts are collected on any dangerous situation, there is a basis for approaching public agencies and culling for its correction. The committee should work with the County Road Commission, the Sheriff's department and local and State Police departments. It would be a sound move to promote safety-checks on vehicles in the county—checks of brakes, tires, wheel alignment, lights and turn signals, and the condition of running gear on cars.

Numerous films are available to use in meetings whenever opportunity can be found. Such films are listed in the Save-A-Life Safety Directors manual.

A well organized campaign of this kind gets results. Cass county had one of the worst rural accident records in the state before 1961. Something had to be done. In that year, the county organized "Operation Bootstrap" aimed at halting rural accidents. By 1963, Cass county reduced its rural accidents by 33% while the state accident record was mounting by 21%. Yes, some of the killing can be stopped.

Your county effort can pay off, too. Take a look at the record for your county for the past three years. Then ask yourself, "Can we afford to let this go on with nothing done to stop it?"

The record grows worse for our rural county and local roads every day. Many a death trap is ready to spring. The question stands poised—"Who's next?" It's time to track down the killer...
Season's Greetings

Another year has rolled by and we pause to reflect on the events which have transpired. Every year brings new products, new services, new techniques in marketing, logistics and distribution... and as fast as they are proven profitable for the farm businessman, Farm Bureau Services has them. Our only business is to assist you. May this Christmas season be the beginning of a wonderful year for you and yours.
GOD INSURANCE, FOR ONE THING

Elmer A. Rusch of Saginaw County has been a Farm Bureau member for 23 years. Why? Because he feels the organization has done more to help agriculture than all other groups combined. And, in his own words, “Because Farm Bureau’s insurance program is second to none.”

Mr. Rusch owns a 275-acre cash crop and dairy farm near Saginaw—and was recently elected president of his County Farm Bureau organization. His family, his home and his vehicles are all insured by Farm Bureau. “As far as I’m concerned, insurance is one of the best reasons for belonging to Farm Bureau,” Mr. Rusch states. “I couldn’t be any happier with the service I’ve had.”

Michigan Farm Bureau offers many legislative, social, and economic advantages to members—including the top quality products and services which are available through its affiliated companies. Down through the years, farm families around Michigan have come to expect only the best from Farm Bureau.

The New Farm Bureau will mean even more to you. Make sure you join in 1966.