

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS



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AMERICAN FARM AID TO SOUTH VIET NAM

VIETNAMESE FARMERS—shown with Carroll P. Streeter, editor of "Farm Journal" magazine, look at a field of "Wisconsin" cabbage, imported by the U.S. Department of State's AID program (Agency for International Development). Realizing that American farmers are concerned about the "race with hunger" and the role U.S. agriculture must play, the farm editor has travelled to Vietnam and other countries where the U.S. helps fight this "other war"—war against hunger.

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU'S 47th annual meeting, scheduled for November 9-10-11, will feature a number of outstanding speakers, among them Streeter, who will appear at the Thursday evening banquet, November 10, at Lansing's Civic Center auditorium. The annual banquet program, expected to attract nearly 1500 Farm Bureau members and guests, will also include Distinguished Service to Agriculture awards, crowning of Farm Bureau's "Queen" and entertainment.

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Editorial**A Gain Again**

From every angle, it appears that 1966 will be a banner Farm Bureau membership year.

Forty-six out of fifty states in the American Farm Bureau Federation "family" are showing substantial gains. Included are all states in the northeast, all in the west, all but one in the south and all but three in the midwest.

Again, the south is the largest gain region, some 14,000 members above last year with a total of 730,000 compared to the midwest's 771,000 Farm Bureau members.

Each year the state Farm Bureaus agree upon an overall national membership goal and accept a proportionate share based upon the number of remaining "potential members" in each state. Although it is too early for a complete tally, it appears now that there are more than 40 "quota" states—the highest number of all time.

Leading the list with the highest per capita of gain is little South Dakota, expecting an increase of 1,000 farm families in a state where Farm Bureau is a relative newcomer.

Both Nebraska and Wisconsin have reached their membership goals for the first time in their history, Wisconsin with a gain of 1,000 to match South Dakota. A similar gain of 1,000 is being chalked up in Kansas, where membership is at an all-time high, and nearby Missouri predicts a gain of 2,000!

Michigan's neighbors of Ohio, Illinois and Indiana all show substantial gains, with Indiana expecting a gain in 90 of 92 counties for an all-time high of 8,200 members more than last year!

Illinois will finish well ahead of a year ago with a total close to 194,000 members—while Ohio predicts a gain of 1,400.

These gains are amazing in view of the long-time dream of only a few years ago, when farm leaders visualized an organization of 1,000,000 farmer members. Soon they were forced to raise their sights to 1,500,000. This year it appears that 1,690,000 farm family members will be part of Farm Bureau and farm leaders now talk about 2,000,000 members.

Why has Farm Bureau grown into the largest farm organization the world has ever known? Obviously because Farm Bureau philosophy is more popular with farmers than the philosophy of other groups. Obviously more farmers have joined Farm Bureau because they have more faith in Farm Bureau's ability to get important jobs done.

Aiding this faith has been a growing disillusionment with government farm programs as the route to more farm income. Farmers turn back to their own efforts as they realize government programs are more tailored to favor consumers than farmers.

Too, in Michigan and throughout the nation, Farm Bureau is involved in many new and expanding services such as farm marketing, labor recruiting, special group purchasing and programs of public information.

These services have been built at the request of the membership, and to their specifications, for Farm Bureau is responsive to the people who make up its membership. In Michigan this response has been recently tested and proven in a number of ways.

Although Michigan is not now among the gain-states, changing management, a year's experience with new programs and a new dues structure, places the Michigan Farm Bureau in a position of real gain-again strength. Finances are improved, teamwork is evident, goals are clearly defined, and new member services are well underway.

But the real strength of Farm Bureau lies in the fact that in every state—every year—Farm Bureau is tested in this ability to respond to member wishes.

The first test is at resolutions time (now) and the second test is during the membership Roll Call campaign (soon)—when every family head is asked to back his belief in organized agriculture with his opinions, his ideas and his cash.

M.W.

**OFFICIAL NOTICE...**

The 47th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau will be held on the dates of November 9-10-11 — at Michigan State University, East Lansing.

Bylaws of the Michigan Farm Bureau provide that each county Farm Bureau shall be entitled to at least two voting delegates, plus an additional delegate for each one-hundred members, or major portion thereof in excess of the first two-hundred members of record, August 31, 1966 — not including associate members.

The meeting of Voting Delegates will convene at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 9 and continue through November 11 at the University Auditorium. The banquet will be held in the Civic Center, Lansing, at 6:00 p.m. November 10.

Purposes of the meeting include election of members of the Board of Directors from even-numbered districts, and two Directors At-Large; the consideration and adoption of a slate of resolutions determining action-policies of the Michigan Farm Bureau for the coming year, plus consideration of proposed amendments to the bylaws, if any.

A "County Presidents' Banquet" will be held the first evening with county Presidents and their wives invited to join state board members and their wives.

Following the dinner and short program, an open meeting of the resolutions committee will be held. This will provide an opportunity for county leaders to examine the proposed policy statements, to ask questions and become prepared for the formal delegate sessions.

A detailed outline of the total annual meeting program is reported elsewhere on these pages, including a list of nationally-known speakers who will appear. It is important that all delegates plan to attend the entire three days, and that the same delegates represent their county continuously during this period.

Dan E. Reed
Secretary-Manager
Michigan Farm Bureau

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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OFFICERS: Michigan Farm Bureau: President, Elton R. Smith, Caledonia, R-1; Vice President, Dean Pridgeon, Montgometry, R-1.

DIRECTORS: District 1, Francis Finch, Mattawan, R-1; District 2, Wilbur H. Smith, Burlington, R-1; District 3, Donald L. Ruhlrig, Dexter; District 4, Elton R. Smith, Caledonia, R-1; District 5, David Morris, Grand Ledge, R-3; District 6, Ward G. Hodge, Snover, R-1; District 7, Kenneth Bull, Bailey, R-1; District 8, Harvey Leuenberger, Saginaw, R-6; District 9, Eugene Roberts, Lake City, R-1; District 10, Edgar Diamond, Alpena, R-2; District 11, Clayton Ford, Cornell.

DIRECTORS AT LARGE: Walter Frahm, Frankenmuth; Dean Pridgeon, Montgometry, R-1; Robert Zeeb, Bath, R-1.

WOMEN OF FARM BUREAU: Mrs. William Scramlin, Holly; **FARM BUREAU YOUNG PEOPLE:** Raymond Kucharek, Gaylord.

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President's Column**Mapping the Way**

This is the time of year when lots of fellows get to looking over hunting and fishing maps. If you take one of these "hunting and fishing guides", big map books that divide Michigan into about eight large, detail maps, you can read just about every local road in Michigan.

There are Farm Bureau members along almost every one of these roads. I wish that I had time to go hunting the member homes along all of them. I'd like to fish out every Farm Bureau family and get them to their county Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and invite them to attend their Michigan Farm Bureau convention.

October is the month of county Annual Meetings. For Farm Bureau members, football games and Halloween are not the most important things happen at the county Annual. It's your big opportunity to take part in spelling out Farm Bureau policy and to elect county Farm Bureau officers who will put vim and vitality into your county Farm Bureau programs.

I think that every member owes it to himself to be at that meeting. Most members want to make Farm Bureau a real "going affair"—an organization that does things that count for agriculture—one that pitches into farmer problems. If you have an idea about what Farm Bureau ought to be doing, the one really important place to say it is at your County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

In the past few years, I have visited with a lot of Farm Bureau folks. By far the most common question that I run into is "why doesn't Farm Bureau do this or that?" Or you run into criticisms about what Farm Bureau is doing.

Some folks say that Farm Bureau "ought to be doing more" about something or other. But too few of them attend the meetings where policies are made and too few point out "more of what?" So many member criticisms of this kind are cases of second guessing, locking the barn after the horse is gone, or like talking about the big one that got away.

The county and state boards of directors want to know what it is that the members want done. The county and state annual meetings allow the members to chart the official road map of policy, marking the route that your organization will take during the coming year. Problems and needs of farmers and agriculture are really debated at these meetings and folks vote on the course that should be taken.

After that route is officially marked out at the annual meetings, Farm Bureau can't listen to every backseat driver who wasn't around when the charting was done. You know how backseat drivers are. Some shout for you to turn right at the next corner while another says that you should really turn left. Some think you ought to go faster, others advise you to go slower. Such an approach breeds confusion.

Members have to agree on where Farm Bureau is going by a proper and official vote in the right place—at the Annual Meetings. The county annual meetings set the stage for all the other conventions to follow.

At the county annuals, members set the course to be followed by your delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau convention in November. Decisions of the delegates at the state annuals give direction to the delegates who attend the American Farm Bureau Federation convention in December. But the action that begins to point the way all starts back home, with you at your county annual meeting—if you were there!

If you think that Farm Bureau would do better "hunting and fishing" along some different route of programs or policies, go to your county annual and point out that route. See the schedule for these meetings in this issue.

You know—you just might be the man or the woman with the best suggestion that has come down the pike, since Pike discovered the Peak. And, it's too bad if you don't get such suggestions on the record.

E.S.

FARM BUREAU—"ON THE MOVE!"

Theme Sets Tone for Dynamic 47th Annual

Farm Bureau is "on the move" in Michigan. This was the apparent feeling of the Annual Meeting committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau Board, which selected the "on the move" theme for this year's important annual meeting.

Dramatic evidence of this movement is on every hand, from the orchards where Farm Bureau's affiliate, MACMA (Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association) has become a decisive factor in boosting apple prices, to continued legislative action to bring about tax reform.

But the most evident action is now taking place all over Michigan at County Farm Bureau annual meetings.

From these will flow the recommendations which set the stage for much of the action at the 47th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, November 9-10-11, at Michigan State University, East Lansing.

There, the membership will hear detailed action reports, take active part in electing officers and writing a set of policy resolutions to guide the organization for the new year.

The convention opens with registration of delegates and guests at 8:30, November 9. The official call to order will come at 10:00—followed shortly by the President's address.

At noon on this first day, Farm Bureau Women will move to Kellogg Center for a luncheon and afternoon program. Others will dine at the Union building, hear an after-dinner speaker, and then move into special-interest groups.

In outlining the program for this year's meeting, the Board Committee, headed by MFB Director Ward Hodge, continued a trend of recent years in stripping away less important parts of the three-day session to allow voting delegates more time to participate in special interest meetings and the actual resolution process.

Besides Hodge, other Directors on the committee include Wilbur Smith, Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Clayton Ford and Raymond Kucharek.

Working with a counterpart "staff" committee, they have arranged a program of unusual compactness and interest. Within it are few departures from annual meetings of recent years, rather it represents a gathering of the best of many.

For example, the exclusive "President's Dinner" on the first night (Nov. 9) will be repeated, followed by the popular "open session" of the Resolutions Committee.

One major departure from recent years is the decision to hold the Young People's sessions on the second day, November 10. This will include a noon luncheon, Talent Find and Talk Meet finals, and interviews to select Michigan Farm Bureau's "Queen" for the new year.

The exciting "big banquet" will be held in the Lansing Civic Center, with ample room to seat and serve several thousand people. This year, food service will be speeded through eight cafeteria-style lines with the dinner followed by a shortened program.

Included will be a major address by Farm Journal editor Carroll Streeter; awards for Distinguished Service, presentation of Queen candidates and naming of the Queen, and concluding entertainment.



"SPARTANAIRE"—shown in normal street attire, include (from top) Norm Duke, tenor; Stu Palmer, lead; Bill Alexander, baritone and Lou Gashower, bass.

The majority of the following two days will be spent in considering a comprehensive slate of policy resolutions, and similar formal convention business, including the election of directors from the "even-numbered" districts along with two directors-at-large.

A recent series of "probable issues" meetings are expected to have stimulated the flow of policy recommendations, with tax-reform remaining at the top of the list. Other major policy areas are expected to center about marketing programs and the broad areas of welfare, education and health.

County Farm Bureaus have a target date of October 21 for all recommendations to be in at Farm Bureau Center, Lansing, for inclusion in the booklet compiled by the state Resolutions Committee.

November 2-3-4 will be dates for comparing and compromising of these recommendations by the state committee prior to offering them to the delegate body at formal sessions of the annual meeting November 10-11.

Convention organist will again be Mrs. Jesse (Louise) Smith, and each session will open with community singing.



Gov. George Romney



Mrs. Haven Smith



Carroll J. Streeter

OUTSTANDING CONVENTION PERSONALITIES

Michigan's Governor will join two nationally-known agricultural personalities as headline speakers for the coming 47th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, November 9-10-11.

Romney will appear on the Thursday morning program, November 10, opening a busy day of activities which conclude with an evening banquet featuring a talk by Carroll Streeter, editor and executive vice president of Farm Journal magazine.

A day earlier, Mrs. Haven Smith, chairman of the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee and member of the Federation's board of directors, will make two convention appearances.

She will speak on the Farm Bureau Women's program following a noon luncheon at Kellogg Center's Big Ten room, and later will appear before the "Presidents' Banquet" also held in Kellogg Center that evening.

Mrs. Smith's appearance in Michigan is especially significant

in view of the forthcoming Michigan meeting of the Associated Country Women of the World To be held on the campus of Michigan State University in 1968, the sessions are expected to attract about 5,000 rural women from many nations.

Mrs. Smith (her many friends call her "Virginia") serves as a Deputy President of the Associated Country Women, and along with Mrs. Maurine Scramlin, chairman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women, is one of the persons responsible for inviting the ACWW to the United States.

Three years ago, she represented the American Country Women on a tour of Latin American countries. Earlier, she made two tours abroad, representing the American Society for Friendship as a "Good Will" ambassador to Switzerland, and representing the Crusade for Freedom on an inspection tour of Radio Free Europe.

A sparkling speaker, Mrs. Smith is known for both her humor and

penetrating insight into complex national and international farm problems.

Similarly, Carroll Streeter has exhibited leadership in helping farmers take an informed position on current farm policy questions including those dealing with such complex issues as inflation and the world food crisis.

As editor of the world's largest farm magazine, now reaching more than three million subscribers in all parts of the nation, he travels to all corners of the globe to witness and report on actions of importance to farmers.

Expected to report on what he terms the "Food War"—Mr. Streeter will draw on his experiences in a recent visit to Asia, and especially the food problems observed in Vietnam.

"The most urgent question of our time," Streeter says, "is one we haven't waked up to: how to keep half of the world not just from being hungry, but from the threat of actual starvation. . . ."

"Spartanaires" to Entertain



SHUDDERINGLY SOBER—the "Spartanaires" (so-named because they were originally organized in Sparta, Michigan,) will perform hobo-style on the main banquet program at the coming 47th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, November 10. This powerful singing group has been combining comedy routines with special barbershop harmony at a number of major functions during the past 10 years. This photo was taken at the conclusion of a favorite song—"Smile-a-While".



capitol report



INTENSELY INTERESTED—in an outline of "probable issues" facing Michigan farmers, is this group of county Farm Bureau leaders attending the Policy Development meeting held in Lansing recently. The program included reports by Michigan Department of Revenue Commissioner, Clarence Lock, and American Farm Bureau Legislative Counsel, Jack Lynn. The one-day event was aimed at strengthening the county resolutions process now underway.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT IS "NUMBER-ONE" FARM JOB

Unusual Meeting Held

A "first of its kind" meeting was held in Lansing, August 23, for county Farm Bureau presidents, county Resolutions Committee chairmen and county Farm Bureau Women's chairmen. Purpose of the meeting was to outline sound procedures for use by county Resolutions Committees to assure every Farm Bureau member an opportunity to express himself on the issues that face agriculture, and that a slate of recommended resolutions be presented at county annual meetings for discussion and action.

The resolutions acted upon at county annual meetings will be forwarded to the state Resolutions Committee which, in turn, will incorporate the ideas expressed into recommended policies to be considered by voting delegates at the state annual meeting in November.

Registration records showed that 57 counties were represented at the meeting by 175 people.

Elton R. Smith, president of Michigan Farm Bureau, opened the meeting and addressed the group on the importance of the policy development process in Farm Bureau. He said, "It's probably the most important single effort that is made in the organization."

He urged that county Resolutions Committees make every effort to determine as nearly as possible the thinking of each and every Farm Bureau member, in order that Farm Bureau policy will "accurately reflect farmer thinking."

Gerald Waldeck, Kent County, chairman of the 1965 state Resolutions Committee, and Louis Hayward, Kalkaska County, this year's chairman, also spoke to the group. They suggested many ideas that might be used to in-

sure a good job at the county level.

Dan Reed, secretary-manager, Michigan Farm Bureau, observed that probably no other organization puts forth more effort to determine member thinking than does Farm Bureau. He said that "policies are the platform upon which Farm Bureau stands and the basis for all its activities."

Bob Smith, Legislative Counsel, discussed the objectives and responsibilities of the Resolutions Committee and outlined various methods of planning and doing the work. He urged county committees to use the many resource people available within the counties and suggested that committees might spend a day at the courthouse meeting with county officials to get factual information on taxes, welfare, health, crime, education, etc.

Resource people speaking to the group included Clarence Lock, Commissioner of the Michigan Department of Revenue, who discussed "Michigan's Revenue Picture," and Jack Lynn, Legislative Director of the American Farm Bureau Federation, whose subject was a "Washington Report on Farm Issues."

CLARENCE LOCK

Commissioner of the Michigan Department of Revenue, Clarence Lock, called Michigan's financial picture "rosy"—with a surplus, July 1, of \$154 million.

"Many would say, 'Why worry?' but a second look should be taken at this year's appropriations. The budget passed will amount to 974 million—\$30 million more than the Governor's request." He cautioned that this figure is only for the general fund and does not include earmarked funds.

Lock discussed many specific areas of the state budget and said that the 1967 session of the Legislature will be faced, for the first time in five years, with the necessity for raising additional funds if the present level of governmental services is to continue.

He listed three ways that the needs could be met: (1) complete tax reform, including a state income tax and repeal or adjustment of other taxes; (2) increasing the present excise taxes on cigarettes, liquor, etc. (these, he warned, are minor items and over the long run would not meet the problem); (3) extending the present sales tax to services. The most studies and serious discussions center around adoption of an income tax, he said.

He observed that while Michigan faces a serious financial problem, other states are in a similar position—with 42 now having sales and use taxes, and three new states imposing them for the first time this year. At least 29 states now have both sales and use taxes and an income tax.

Lock urged the group to give serious consideration to this problem and its possible solution.



"INFLATION—is the number-one issue in this country today" according to J. C. (Jack) Lynn, Legislative Director for the Washington office of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Lynn was a featured speaker at the state-wide Policy Development meeting held in Lansing by the Public Affairs Division.

Quotes From Lynn...

The following are brief excerpts from the talk made in Lansing recently by Jack Lynn of the American Farm Bureau Federation:

- Farm Bureau members must become more actively engaged in politics. Farm Bureau is now organized in 2,770 counties located in 49 states and Puerto Rico, with a growing membership due to reach another all-time high this year—at a time when farm-numbers are decreasing.
- Farmers are being blamed for inflation, which is caused by government spending programs and is the number-one issue in our country today. We are in a 'wartime' type of economy, and we cannot fight a 70 billion dollar war and still afford the luxuries of a 'Great Society' at the same time.
- To stop inflation we must do one of two things—either take in more money in taxes or stop non-essential spending. Both are unpopular in an election year.
- The national-debt ceiling has been raised to a record 330 billion dollars. A total of 145 billion dollars will be paid out of the federal treasury to the general public this year as direct payments to citizens in such programs as Social Security.
- Agricultural Secretary Freeman makes a foolish assumption when he asks, as he did in a recent speech—'are we equal to creating a great society?'—we already have a truly great society within the United State if politicians would only let it remain that way.



INFORMAL VISIT—is enjoyed by Jack Lynn (right) with Farm Bureau leaders following his appearance on the recent Policy Development program. With him are (left) Nicholas Smith, Hillsdale county, and Wilbur Smith, MFB Board member.

FARM BUREAU Our **ACTION** Organization

By Larry Ewing, Manager
Field Services Division

"A golden era for agriculture"—that's what many articles are saying in farm magazines. Is that the case? Will it just happen because conditions are right?

For instance, it's a fact that government doesn't have surplus stocks to dump. We finally have a situation where the Secretary of Agriculture can't open the bins and force prices down.

Commitments made to supply foreign countries with agricultural commodities are causing governmental officials great concern. It looks as though the United States can't make commitments for next year quite so freely. The stockpiles just don't exist.

Those who several years ago advocated "a government-planned economy" now hide their fiery red faces. Not sunburn, but embarrassment, causes the spread of color.

In just a few years; the "planners" have moved the U.S. farmer from a "surplus producer" to a "necessary food producer." This wasn't what the planners wanted. They want the food, but they want it cheap—and they want full control.

So this year, wheat allotments have been increased by 30 percent. It is rumored that next year the acres in conservation reserve will be called back into production. The planners still aren't

ready to admit that government control programs just haven't worked. In fact, many are saying, "We need price controls."

To have effective price control systems, rationing needs to be started. This is repulsive to both farmers and consumers. And since planners are politically motivated they don't talk about the ugly subject of rationing.

Are we about to enter a "golden era of agriculture?" It could well be. It depends on you and your fellow farmers.

Secretary Freeman gave us the answer in his famous "Slip, Slide and Duck" speech. He told fellow politicians, in effect, avoid the "cost of food" issue if possible, but if forced to, take the side of the farmer. He added, "Consumers aren't as well organized."

What he meant was that politicians are more apt to listen to organized groups. Farm Bureau is already the strongest organized

group for agriculture. Encourage and ask your neighbor to help make "organized agriculture" still stronger by joining Farm Bureau.

Farmers also need to be organized to take advantage of conditions which warrant higher prices. This year you may get a higher price than last year, but is it the "right" price? Work to develop organized marketing through Farm Bureau. Ask your neighbor to join Farm Bureau and work with you on effective marketing.

Farm Bureau has become "organized agriculture" because of member participation at the county, state and national levels. In October you have the opportunity to guide the organization. You do it by attending your county annual meeting. Go—speak your mind—vote your convictions—and work after the meetings to obtain those things for which you voted.

There's not another organization quite like Farm Bureau. It is strong because members want it strong. It will remain strong as long as members work together to get things done, and make certain that non-members are asked to join Farm Bureau—the Action Organization.

COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING CALENDAR

The strength of Farm Bureau lies in the active participation of its members. There is no better place or time for such participation than at the county Farm Bureau annual meeting.

Use this list to underscore YOUR county annual meeting date and place. Plan to attend!

- ALCONA — Oct. 10, 8:00 p.m., Alcona Co. High School, lunch following meeting.
- ALLEGAN — Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m., Allegan Griswold Auditorium, Potluck supper.
- ALPENA — Oct. 13, Wilson Community School, 8:00 p.m., refreshments.
- ANTRIM — Oct. 5, 8:00 p.m., Central Lake High School Cafeteria, Lunch.
- ARENAC — Oct. 5, 8:00 p.m., Courthouse, Standish.
- BARAGA — Oct. 5, 8:00 p.m., Covington Fire Hall, lunch.
- BARRY — Oct. 10, 7:30 potluck, Community Building, Fairgrounds, Hastings.
- BAY — Oct. 25, 8:00 p.m., Monitor Town Hall, Bay City, refreshments.
- BENZIE — Oct. 18, 8:00 p.m., St. Philips Episcopal Church, Beulah.
- BERRIEN — Oct. 13, Youth Memorial Building, Berrien Springs, 6:30 p.m. dinner.
- BRANCH — Oct. 11, 8:00 p.m., 4-H Cabin, Fairgrounds, Coldwater.
- CALHOUN — Oct. 12, 8:00 p.m., B. E. Henry Community Bldg., Marshall.
- CASS — Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m., East Gate Office Bldg., Cassopolis, luncheon.
- CHARLEVOIX — Oct. 6
- CHEBOYGAN — Oct. 5, 8:00 p.m., Black River Elementary School.
- CHIPPEWA — Oct. 4, 8:00 p.m., Kinross 4-H Center, luncheon.
- CLARE — Oct. 13, 8:00 p.m., Grant Town Hall, lunch.
- CLINTON — Oct. 11, 7:30 dinner, Smith Hall, St. Johns park.
- DELTA — Oct. 1, 8:00 p.m., Rapid River Elementary School, lunch.
- EATON — Oct. 13, 7:00 p.m. dinner, 4-H Bldg., Fairgrounds, Charlotte.
- EMMET — Oct. 17, 8:00 p.m., Harbor Springs Elementary School, refreshments.
- GENESEE — Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m. potluck, Rankin Twp. Hall.
- GLADWIN — Oct. 4, 8:00 p.m., Grout Town Hall, lunch.
- GRATIOT — Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m. potluck, Breckenridge High School Cafeteria.
- HILLSDALE — Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m. potluck, 4-H Club Bldg., Fairgrounds, Hillsdale.
- HOUGHTON — Oct. 6, 8:00 p.m., Eldred Lange Home, Houghton, refreshments.
- HURON — Oct. 5, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Farm Bureau Center, Bad Axe.
- INGHAM — Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m. potluck dinner, Stockbridge Legion Hall.
- IONIA — Oct. 20, 8:00 p.m., Youth Building, Ionia Fairgrounds, refreshments.
- IOSCO — Oct. 12, 8:00 p.m., Tawas Twp. Hall, refreshments.
- IRON — Oct. 8, 8:00 p.m., Stambaugh Twp. Hall, lunch.
- ISABELLA — Oct. 5, 8:00 p.m., Deerfield Center Hall, refreshments.
- JACKSON — Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. dinner, Concord Masonic Temple.
- KALAMAZOO — Oct. 13, 7:00 p.m. dinner, County Center Bldg., Kalamazoo.
- KALKASKA — Oct. 15, 8:00 p.m., Kalkaska High School.
- KENT — Oct. 24, before 7:30 p.m. Cafeteria, Schensul's, Grand Rapids.
- LAPEER — Oct. 13, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Lapeer Center Bldg.
- LENAWEE — Oct. 10, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Madison School, Adrian.
- LIVINGSTON — Oct. 6, 7:30 supper, Fowlerville high school.
- MACKINAC-LUCE — Oct. 3, 8:00 p.m. potluck supper, Garfield Township Hall.
- MACOMB — Oct. 6, 7:00 p.m. banquet, Immanuel Lutheran School, Waldenburg.
- MANISTEE — Oct. 13, 8:00 p.m. Farr Center, Onekama.
- MARQUETTE-ALGER — Oct. 7, 8:00 p.m., Chatham Town Hall, lunch.
- MASON — Oct. 11, 8:00 p.m., Amber Twp Hall, lunch.
- MECOSTA — Oct. 8, noon dinner, Morley-Stanwood School.
- MENOMINEE — Oct. 11, 8:00 p.m., Bank of Stephenson Community Room.
- MIDLAND — Oct. 17, 8:00 p.m., Homer Twp Hall, Midland, lunch.
- MISSAUKEE — Oct. 10
- MONROE — Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Hickory Park Legion Hall, Temperance.
- MONTCALM — Oct. 6, 8:00 p.m. Central Montcalm High School, refreshments.
- MONTMORENCY — Oct. 11, 7:00 p.m. potluck, Hillman School Cafeteria.
- MUSKEGON — Oct. 11, 8:00 p.m., Wolf Lake 4-H Center, lunch.
- NEWAYGO — Oct. 18, 8:00 p.m., Fremont Foundation Bldg., lunch.
- NORTHWEST MICHIGAN — Oct. 11, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Twin Lakes 4-H Camp, Traverse City.
- OAKLAND — Oct. 5, Farmington.
- OCEANA — Oct. 12, 7:00 p.m. potluck, Shelby Congregational Church.
- OGEAW — Oct. 4, 8:30 p.m., Ogemaw Twp. Hall, lunch.
- OSCEOLA — Oct. 20, Lincoln Twp. Hall.
- OTSEGO — Oct. 18
- OTTAWA — Oct. 18, 8:00 p.m., Allendale Twp. Hall.
- PRESQUE ISLE — Oct. 13, 8:00 p.m., Belknap Twp. Hall, lunch.
- SAGINAW — Oct. 18, 8:00 p.m. dinner, 4-H Building, Saginaw.
- SANILAC — Oct. 10, 6:00 pancake supper, Sanilac Farm Bureau Bldg., Sandusky.
- SHIAWASSEE — Oct. 10, 7:00 p.m. potluck supper, McCurdy Park Casino, Corunna.
- ST. CLAIR — Oct. 11, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Community Bldg., Goodells County park.
- ST. JOSEPH — Oct. 10, 7:00 p.m. potluck dinner, Community Bldg., Centreville.
- TUSCOLA — Oct. 18, 7:00 p.m. banquet, Caro High School.
- VAN BUREN — Oct. 22, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Farm Bureau Bldg., Paw Paw.
- WASHTENAW — Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m. potluck, Farm Council Bldg., Ann Arbor.
- WAYNE — Oct. 7, 8:00 p.m., 4-H Fairgrounds, Belleville, lunch.
- WEXFORD — Oct. 4, 8:00 p.m., Cadillac High School cafeteria.

INTERN PROGRAM

An article titled "Youthful Legislators"—dealing with the legislative "intern" program, prompted a letter from House Speaker, Joseph Kowalski. Excerpts follow:

TO THE EDITOR:

We have had the Fellowship Program in operation for one year in the House and have been highly satisfied with it—with one exception.

Three of the four graduate students selected for 1965-66 Fellowships completed the program and did a terrific job.

The fourth became a drop-out before the end of the year. Unfortunately, the "drop-out" was Dale Warner, one of the young men featured in your article.

Mr. Warner broke the one pledge required of our Fellowship interns. That pledge is that he would not be a candidate for elective office during the year of his fellowship.

By dropping out of the program to become a candidate, Warner did a disservice to the Chairman of the House Committee on General Taxation and Rep. Claude Burton, the fine State Representative he now hopes to replace.

It is ironical that this young man who has attempted to make personal political profit from his Fellowship should attempt to assume credit for enactment of the bill granting tax exemption for farm personal property. The fact is that Rep. Claude Burton, the man young Warner is opposing, was the Representative who initiated the drive in the House for farm-personal exemption.

While it is unusual to state this kind of information publicly, and I regret having to do it, Warner's attempt to use the House Fellowship Program for personal political advancement leaves me no choice.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Kowalski
Speaker

TAXES for Social Security to Rise

By Dan E. Reed

Secretary-Manager, Michigan Farm Bureau

On January 1, 1967, Social Security taxes will again increase for an employed worker. The increase is from 4.2% to 4.4%, with further automatic tax increases scheduled, under the present law, as far into the future as 1987.

The employer also faces the same increase. *Together, this means that for an employed person 8.8% of the total taxable payroll of his employer will be taken by the government to help pay the costs of the Social Security system.*

In the past, increases have been both on a base used to figure the tax, which has now been increased to the first \$6600 of wages earned, as well as on percentage of tax. The present maximum per employee, shared by the employer and the employee is \$554.40. Scheduled increases already provided by law will take this to 11.3%, or \$745.80 per employee.

When the Social Security program started in 1937, the rate was 1% on the first \$3,000, or \$30 each from employee and employer. There have been 11 increases since the system was started, but it is amazing to note that the tax was not raised at all during the first 13 years. All 11 increases have taken place in the past 17 years.

Indications are that the presently authorized increases for future years cannot be expected to stay at the levels planned. Even more drastic tax increases can be expected.

If an employee had been covered by Social Security since 1937 (the time the program began) and paid the maximum amounts since that time, he would have paid a total of \$2106. The employer would also have paid this amount. In the next seven years, however, if an employee continued to pay the maximum amount, both the employee and employer will

pay more in Social Security taxes than they did in the past 29 years put together.

In spite of this pattern of rising taxes, programs financed through Social Security are often sold on the basis that "there's plenty of money to take care of the need." Social Security tax costs become a part of our price level structure. The Social Security tax paid by the employer is a direct cost of doing business and, as Social Security taxes go up, prices go up. Emp'oyees also look at take-home pay rather than the value of the the whole package of wages and fringe benefits, including Social Security.

Little wonder that Farm Bureau members have stated their opposition (1) to any additional Social Security benefits which would require further increases in taxes, and (2) the use of the payroll deduction type tax for any further expansion of welfare programs.

Congressman Otto Passman (D-Louisiana)—speaking of the Great Society—"Never in the history of America has it been proposed to take away so much from so many to do so little for so few."

FARMERS ARE NATION'S GREATEST EXPORTERS

"Agriculture represents the biggest export industry in this country, but for some reason we seldom act as if this is true . . ."

Speaking was Herbert Harris of the American Farm Bureau Federation staff, and the story of U.S. farm export potentials was a main topic at his appearance before newsmen in meetings at Battle Creek, Flint and Detroit.

County Farm Bureau information committees sponsored Harris's appearances in cooperation with the Information Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Nearly 200 members of the working press and Farm Bureau leaders attended the series.

Harris, who specializes in international trade in his position as Legislative Counsel for the American Farm Bureau Federation out of the Washington office, told the groups that farmers must insist on easier access to the markets of the world if they are going to prosper.

"Historically we have been exporters—and the last time I worked out the totals, we exported the produce from 80 million acres of U.S. cropland. This came to about \$6.7 billions in 1965. We gave away about \$1.5 billion worth of farm produce, but over \$5 billion of the total amount was sold for actual dollars.

"We used to think that seaports were far-away places such as New York, Baltimore and San Francisco. Today, we know that they are as close as Detroit, Chicago and others on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

"This is the real reason why Farm Bureau established a trade office in Europe several years ago. Through this office, staff members work full time to develop new markets for American farm products in Western Europe. Today, there is a staff member from the American Farm Bureau Federation in Japan, deciding how best to develop markets there," Harris said.

He suggested that the best way to assure strong farm prices is through the market-place where competition from "alternate customers" is keen.

As an example of alternate customers and alternate markets, he pointed to a recent argument over what some considered as excessive exporting of cattle hides to Europe and Japan.

"Several years ago we began developing new markets for hides which are an important by-product of the cattle industry. Last year we sold record amounts in Europe and Japan.

"The American shoe industry promptly began yelling loudly that the Department of Commerce placed controls on the export of hides to prevent a domestic rise in prices.

"Farmers, through the Amer-



Herbert E. Harris

ican Farm Bureau, fought these limitations on our new markets, and finally got the restriction lifted to the level of the 1965 exports. In the meantime, over 80% of all American-made shoes were built with soles of substitute-leather."

Elsewhere in his talks, Harris struck at the fallacies of government-guaranteed support prices, pointing out that farmers are in poor position to compete with non-farmers in the political arena—when farmers hold only about six per cent of the votes.

"Back when the farmer had 30 or 40 per cent of the vote, it might have been a good idea to depend more strongly on favorable political decisions," he said.

Commenting on the current "Food for Peace" discussions and other efforts to feed the world's hungry, Harris noted that America has given away over a billion dollars worth of food each year, "for the last ten years."

"We have given away as much as people would take. We gave 260 million bushels of wheat, about half of the total used at home, to India last year.

"India has between 80 and 85 per cent of its population engaged in farming and still cannot feed itself. The Indian government had the strange idea that the grain we gave could be used to keep down the price of grain which their people buy. Unfor-

Trade Expert Visits Michigan



"AGRICULTURAL TRADE OPPORTUNITIES—remain virtually unlimited if we remove world trade barriers instead of erecting more in the form of international commodity agreements . . ." according to Herb Harris of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Expanded foreign trade through free world markets was the theme used by Harris in a series of press-relations dinner meetings. Harris is pictured speaking before a group in the Detroit Press Club.

unately, this removed the incentive of local producers, and they began to 'mark time' while the population grew. Although food-aid helps temporarily, we must remember that the best help of all is that which allows people to solve their own feeding problems," Harris said.

Recently Harris served as a member of the U.S. Delegation to the Food and Agricultural Organization in Rome, where he said that five countries in Africa and South America made essentially the same plea.

They complained that manufactured products which they import cost more all the while, at the same time the primary products (agricultural) that they export bring less and less. One delegate said there should be an international agreement to give a minimum price for all farm products, and that something should be done to stop the substitution of synthetics for primary products.

Harris's remarks before the newsmen drew many comments in the question-answer periods which followed each presentation.

Newspaper and radio interviews and television new-clips resulted from each session. Noon-time luncheon arrangements brought Harris before other news and feature writers in support of Farm Bureau's work in foreign trade.

Earnings Distributed By Farmers Petroleum

"O, wortermelon time is a-comin' 'round again, and there ain't no man a-livin' any tickleder'n me!" said James Whitcomb Riley.

Now it's "melon slicing" time in Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. And don't you wish you were getting a slice? You could get one, you know!

If you were a holder of Farmers Petroleum securities or a patron on their delivery programs, you would be due for a share.

We should talk about "melons" because the cash cuts are being divided among various persons and financing programs. There are several ways by which farmers and dealers share in the cash returns.

On September 1, 1966, \$116,000 was mailed to holders of F.P.C. debentures, and another \$54,000 to those who hold "Class A" stock certificates.

Normally, Farmers Petroleum's "Class A" stock is called in and redeemed on a 15-year schedule. But the F.P.C. board of directors decided to speed up the program this year.

Stocks issued from September 1, 1952 to August 31, 1954 are "on call" during September of 1966. Holders of these stocks are being informed by mail regarding the serial numbers of the "ripe" stocks and what to do to obtain their cash. The sum amounts to \$101,502.

Debentures will also be redeemed in 1966-67 to the tune of over \$105,600. Holders will receive proper notification and instructions.

Patrons of Farmers Petroleum who hold Deferred Patronage Certificates will receive a 3% dividend. This means about \$28,000 for their pocketbooks. This "split" of the melon is scheduled for November 1, 1966.

New patronage refunds based on business of the past year will begin distribution by December 1, 1966. Thirty percent will be paid in cash and the balance in Deferred Patronage Certificates. A similar payment to cooperating local dealers will be started January 1, 1967.

Only cooperatives channel earnings back to those who do business with them. It pays to own securities or to patronize Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. The "melon cutting ceremony" takes place every year!



SHOWN IN ACTION— at two of the "Press-Relations" meetings is foreign trade specialist, Herbert Harris of Washington D. C. About 70 persons attended each of the meetings, held first at Battle Creek (left picture) and Flint (right). Local newspaper, radio and television newsmen were guests of their county Farm Bureaus at the information series.

CO-OP MONTH

October is Co-op Month. It was so proclaimed by the Governor of Michigan, George Romney, at a special ceremony in his offices, August 31. Present at the signing were two men to whom the proclamation has special significance. One was 29, the other 78. Present by invitation, they personified the past and the future of farmer cooperatives.

This was a special day for both men. Troy E. Lutz, White Pigeon, was honored as the oldest known cooperative member who continuously used and supported a co-op over the greatest number of years; Ken Ruthig has the distinction of being the youngest known elected cooperative leader. Both are Farm Bureau members of long standing.

Describing himself as "too old to get under a cow—and too slow to get out from under if he did get there," Lutz nevertheless still maintains a half-interest in the dairy farm which his son Franklin now operates.

Lutz purchased a share of stock in the Constantine Cooperative Creamery in 1916 and has sent either cream or milk from his farm continuously since that time. During his 50 years as an active producer, he was a board member of the co-op from 1939 to 1956, and president of the board from 1946 to 1954.

Although the honored cooperator modestly maintains his long presidency was due to the fact that he was "nearly the creamery," two of his staunch supporters who were also present at the signing—Lloyd Cupp, president of the Constantine Co-op board, and Art Wolgamood, manager of the creamery—hasten to acclaim him as "an outstanding president."

Lutz gives a good deal of credit

for the success of the Constantine Co-op to the late Clarence Brody, one of its organizers and general manager for many years. "It was through the dedication and sincere efforts of Clarence Brody (brother of Farm Bureau's Clark Brody) that the co-op grew and farmers of the area received better returns."

The Constantine Co-op, a charter member of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives (MAFC), received its original capital from 160 local farmers who bought shares of stock at \$15 each. Its present assets are valued at \$1,473,000. From 1952 to 1965, patronage refunds totaled \$527,579.

According to Lutz, 29-year-old Ken Ruthig is "just beginning his education" as a cooperator. When Ken was elected to the board of the Leslie Cooperative in 1962, he became the youngest known co-op leader in the state. For two of his four years on the Leslie board, he served as secretary.

The young farmer, father of five children, operates a 400 acre farm in partnership with his father, Fred, who has been a member of the Leslie Co-op since its organization. They specialize in beef, hogs and cash crops.

With Ruthig at the Co-op Month proclamation signing was John Williamson, manager of the



"OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH"—declares the proclamation signed by Governor Romney in special ceremonies at his office recently. Present at the signing were: Troy E. Lutz (center), White Pigeon, oldest known cooperative member who continuously supported a co-op over the greatest number of years, and Ken Ruthig (right), Leslie, the youngest known elected cooperative leader. Both are Farm Bureau members.

Leslie Cooperative. Williamson reports that the Ruthigs have shown outstanding ability in crop production and proudly points to Fred's record as a member of the "100 bushel corn club" for five out of six years.

The Leslie Co-op (featured in last month's Farm News), like its honored representative, is "young" yet. But although it's only 17 years old, it is one of the fastest growing co-ops in the state.

While the "pioneer" Lutz remembers the past when his products were hauled to the co-op creamery in horse and buggy, and the difficult days of "The Depression," Ruthig looks ahead to the future of agriculture with its advanced methods of farming . . . and the important part farmer cooperatives will play in that future.

L A Cheney, executive secretary of MAFC, sponsors of the oldest and youngest cooperator

contest, feels equally proud of both winners. "When the young take the reins from the old, they do so with the knowledge that they have an impressive record to maintain," he said.

As Governor Romney pointed out in the proclamation: "For nearly a hundred years, cooperatives have represented a fair and wholesome competition within our nation's business community. Farmer cooperatives have pioneered in raising quality standards, both in products marketed and in items of production used on their farms and in their businesses.

"They have worked to insure reliable and wholesome sources of food products vital to the consuming public . . . They represent a very significant segment of Michigan's business enterprise . . . therefore, I urge recognition of the importance of the farmer cooperative movement in this State."

HO! HUM!

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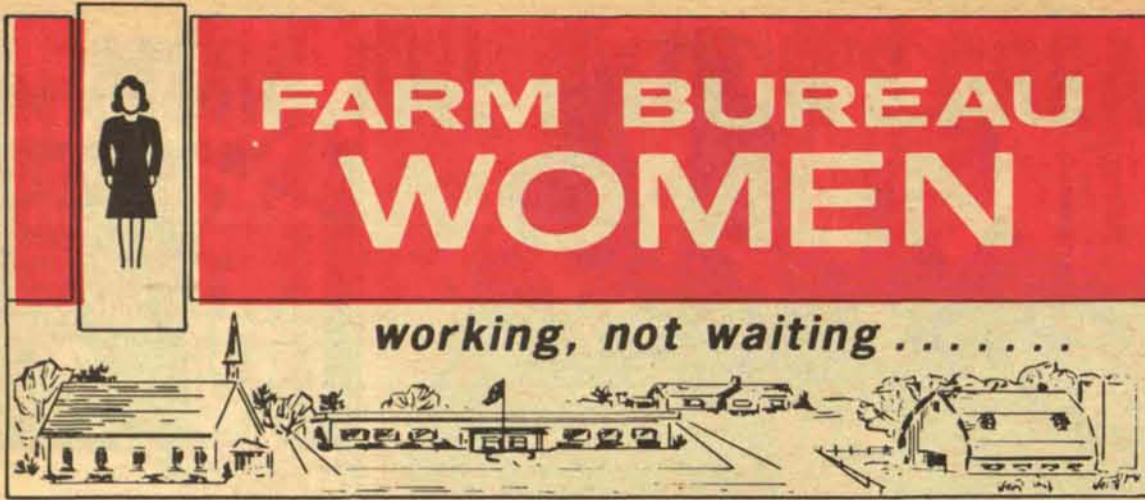
OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH

Nine Midwest governors, including Gov. George Romney, proclaimed October is Co-op Month. They know that millions of Americans in these states have strengthened their own private enterprise through co-ops. They urge everyone to become better acquainted with your co-ops during October Co-op Month.

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FARM BUREAU WOMEN

working, not waiting



MICHIGAN PRODUCTS—served at a smorgasbord dinner by St. Clair County Farm Bureau Women, are admired by Duane Sugden, MFB Regional Representative. Others in the picture are: (from left) Mrs. William Reid, County Women's Chairman; Mrs. Frank H. Burrows, Women's Secretary; Mrs. Russell Draves, Treasurer and Mrs. Roy Lindsay, Vice Chairman.



WOMEN'S COORDINATOR—Miss Helen Atwood, speaks to the crowd attending the special "All-Michigan" dinner sponsored as a rural-urban project by Farm Bureau Women of St. Clair county in the Goodells Community Building. Seated to the left, and disguised by wig and heavy mustache, is T. C. Petersen, Director of Program Development for the American Farm Bureau and featured speaker. Petersen talked "common-sense economics" from the pretended viewpoint of a distinguished foreign visitor.



DISGUISE REMOVED—T. C. Petersen shakes hands following his address, with former Michigan Farm Bureau President, Clarence Reid and Mrs. Reid. Earlier Petersen had disguised himself with wig and mustache to fit his introduction as a "visiting Danish economist". In this role, he warned his listeners of dangerous trends observed in his travels in "your country".

State Products Theme for St. Clair Women's Dinner

The "You and I" (U. and I.) Committees of Farm Bureau Women continue active in their work of spreading Information and Understanding. Popular among programs used for this purpose are special farm-city events such as the recently held All-Michigan Smorgasbord sponsored by St. Clair County Farm Bureau Women.

The dinner meeting was held in the Goodells Community Building with 325 persons present to sample the food and hear an unusual talk by "Hans Odegaard"—distinguished Danish economist.

Actually, "Odegaard" was T.C. ("Pete") Petersen, director of the Program Development Division of the American Farm Bureau, so well disguised for his role of visiting professor that not even close acquaintances penetrated the deception.

Guests were present from Tuscola, Sanilac, Lapeer, Macomb and other nearby counties.

A multitude of Michigan foods were served under the capable direction of county Women's Chairman, Mrs. William T. Reid. Featured were turkey, ham, all the "trimmings" such as fresh garden vegetables and dairy products, plus a galaxy of desserts.

After a flattering (if thoroughly faked) introduction by Coordinator, Miss Helen Atwood, Petersen captivated the crowd with his well-chosen remarks.

"Hans Odegaard is in this country studying our economic system and legislative process," Miss Atwood said.

"He has visited many of our state Land-Grant Colleges," she added, "where he is comparing the values of our economic system to those of the world."

Disguised by both his wig and mustache, and aided by the false build-up, Petersen was able to make a number of important points.

"The feel of freedom sings throughout America. Freedom to

work, to play, to plan. Freedom at home, in education, in business and churches.

"Many countries of the world have lost these freedoms, and I cannot help but worry about trends I see here.

"Why is it your country seeks to follow patterns of failure that bring restrictions on freedom, restrictions on production, that cause want in so much of the world?"

Petersen compared the great productivity of our nation with others of the world in terms of bathtubs, telephones, automobiles and similar "luxuries" which Americans take for granted.

Many of the comparisons were with Russia, where nearly 50 per cent of the population must work at the tasks of farming to feed the nation. "Here in America, one farmer feeds almost 40 people besides himself," Petersen said.

As he spoke of American productivity, guests were more conscious than ever of the fine foods served and the abundance which American consumers enjoy for a smaller portion of their spendable

income than is possible anywhere else in the world.

Delighted with both the dinner and the obvious gains made in increased understanding between farmers and urban guests, the St. Clair Women counted another dividend from the evening's program in the form of several hundred dollars raised for the "Marge Karker" Scholarship fund.

Named in honor of the former Coordinator of Farm Bureau Women's Work, the fund will be put to work helping further the education of selected students, beginning in 1968.

In producing the "all-Michigan" menu, the women boosted still another of their important projects, the active promotion of Michigan farm commodities . . .

FARM-CITY WEEK

County Farm Bureaus are urged to take part in Farm City Week, scheduled this year for the dates of November 18 through 24.

The "week" begins on the Friday of the week preceding Thanksgiving day, and as a fitting conclusion, ends on Thanksgiving day proper.

George McIntyre, Acting Director of the Cooperative Extension Service, MSU, is heading the state Farm/City Week Committee, assisted by Frank Madaski, former Extension Agent from Berrien county.

County Farm Bureaus are asked to take part in the formation of county committees and carry an active role in the program, using the occasion to tell the story of agriculture to city dwellers.

Terse Verse

Mildred Nelson Kain
Huron County Farm Bureau

Future Farmers

He won an F.F.A. medal,
Because he had done so well,
And now he wears it proudly,
In his best girl's lapel!

Farm Problems

There's no surplus of commodities,
Away up here in the "sticks"
The only surplus that plagues
us now,
Is a surplus of POLITICS!

Money Management

Nickels and dimes are never
enough,
For my spendthrift sons and
daughters,
When they beg me for a dollar
or more,
I should confine them to quarters!

Epitaph

'Tis a memorial,
Of several words or so,
That often lies above,
The one who lies below!

WASHINGTON AIR TOUR

Dates of March 13-16 have been selected for the 1967 version of the Farm Bureau Women's popular Washington Air Tour. Underway are plans to increase the effectiveness of the tour by combining pre-planned farm-leader visits with Congressmen—and a "Heritage Tour" of the Capital city and vicinity.

The group will again leave from the Detroit airport, using jet planes for swift travel. In Washington, one portion of the group will become "Legislative Spokesmen" and formally represent Farm Bureau in meetings with the Lawmakers. Later this group will rejoin those on the Heritage Tour in one day of sightseeing.

"FARMING IS A FAMILY AFFAIR"

October means many things to many people. To some it means the smell of burning leaves and football games. To others it means fall harvest and county Farm Bureau annual meeting time. To two active Michigan farm wives, October signals the start of a new and challenging experience—that of serving on the state Farm Bureau Women's Committee.

They are Mrs. Lauri Honkala, Crystal Falls (Upper Peninsula), who begins her term as District 11W chairman, and Mrs. Lewis Babbitt, Eagle, representing District 5. They have an important role to play—one which will take time and effort and dedication. They look forward to their new roles with anticipation.

Mrs. Honkala (Eleanor), although she was not raised on a farm and "didn't know how to milk cows until four children later," has been a partner with her husband, Lauri, in a custom baling service for the past 12 years. The Honkalas raise hay and potatoes on the farm where Lauri was born and raised.

Their four children are: Charles, who leaves October 5th for the Army; Jack, now in the Air Force in Okinawa; Sandra, a nurses' aid at Crystal Manor, a retirement home for the aged; and Ellen, who married in June and makes her home in Gwinn.

Mrs. Honkala believes that the farm is best place to raise children—"My children agree," she says.

Eleanor has a long record of Farm Bureau activity including four years as county women's chairman, two years as Citizenship chairman, county delegate to the state convention, and has been in charge of the Farm Bureau Queen contest for several years.

4-H plays another important part in her busy life; she has just completed her fourth year on the board of directors. She also devotes time to church activities and serves as treasurer of the Bethany Lutheran Church Women.

Weaving rag rugs on a large loom and embroidery work are her favorite hobbies.

The District 11W chairman has some strong feelings about the farm organization to which she devotes so much time. She has little patience with farmers who are content to "sit back and take what comes—all the while grumbling."

"It is hard to see so many farms closing because of taxes and government controls. It will not only be the farmers who suffer but all citizens—because it's the farmers who produce the food they eat," she said.

"I believe if something is worth having, it is also worth a little extra time and effort. The best way is to be in an organization that will represent you and work toward the same goals. That organization is Farm Bureau."

District 5's new chairman is petite, energetic Jeanette Babbitt, who lives on a 184-acre farm near Eagle with her husband, Lewis, and two sons, Vernon, 17, a junior in High School, and Melvin, 14, a 9th grader. Both boys take agricultural courses at Grand Ledge High School.

Their farm is a family affair with very little hired help. Mrs. Babbitt calls their 30 Holstein dairy herd a "family workshop."

Jeanette's Farm Bureau activities include service as secretary of her Community Group, vice-chairman and chairman of the Clinton County Farm Bureau Women, dis-

trict women's vice chairman, legislative committee member, and chairman of the county Citizenship Committee.

She is extremely active in her church and community with much time devoted to activities of the Wacousta Community Methodist Church where she is a member of the choir, assistant church school teacher, secretary of membership cultivation of the Women's Society of Christian Service, and is Church Circle chairman. She is also a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Her civic activities include: member of the Eastern Star, past Worthy High Priestess of Bethany White Shrine, past president of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, and she currently serves as vice chairman of the Neighborhood Society.

Add to this lengthy listing, service as a school room mother, Cub Scout den mother, county board of canvassers and the chairmanship of Eagle Township Cancer Society.

In her "spare time," she enjoys refinishing antique furniture and occasional sewing "when overalls don't need mending."

In spite of this busy schedule, Jeanette feels it vitally important to give much of her time and effort to Farm Bureau because, "To me, Farm Bureau has the many services that make it a family affair. It is educational as there is so much information given continually that aids us in everyday living as well as giving us a broader outlook."



MRS. LAURI HONKALA, from the Upper Peninsula, is the new Farm Bureau Women's chairman for District 11W. With her is daughter Ellen, one of her four children.



MRS. LEWIS BABBITT, Eagle, is the new chairman of District 5 Farm Bureau Women. She is shown refinishing an antique table, given to her by her grandmother.

F. B. WOMEN AT WORK . . .

It's busy days ahead for three farm wives as they begin the important task of representing the Farm Bureau Women on the state Resolutions Committee for 1966.

They are: Mrs. Andrew Jackson, Howell (Livingston county); Mrs. LaVerne Kramer, Reading (Hillsdale), and Mrs. Wm. Cleve Lockhart, Pickford (Chippewa).

The committee is scheduled to meet in Lansing October 4 for hearings and presentation of background materials; November 2-3-4 for the big task of compiling county resolutions into a "tentative" booklet, and three action-packed days at the annual meeting, November 9-10-11.

Mrs. Jackson, whose husband has served on the board of Michigan Milk Producers and the American Dairy Association of Michigan, will use what she calls her "second-hand experience" on the State Affairs and Marketing, and Bylaws and Internal Affairs subcommittees.

Mrs. Kramer, currently serving as chairman of the District 2 Farm Bureau Women, will contribute her efforts to the Conservation and the Health, Welfare, Safety and Civil Defense subcommittees.

Mrs. Lockhart, active Upper Peninsula Farm Bureau leader and current Dist. 11E Women's chairman, will serve on the National and International Affairs, and the Taxation and Education subcommittees.

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Board of Trade Backs Livestock Future Sales

Members of the Chicago Board of Trade voted to establish live beef cattle trading on the Board and have moved ahead to set margin requirements, delivery months, pit location, hours of trading and similar details.

As was reported in the last issue of the *Farm News*, this historic agreement involves a number of complicated grade, price and delivery schedules to be included among contract features.

Robert L. Martin, chairman of the Board, called the action "an enlightened move." He said the addition of a live beef contract to futures already traded in feed grains and steer carcasses will complete the range of trading opportunities offered by the Board to all segments of the meat industry. "Adding the live beef contract will result in an integrated meat-and-grain futures market of sufficient size to make beef producing and marketing more stable," he said.

Trading in the new contract will be a particularly valuable tool for cattlemen and meat packers seeking guidelines to the forward-pricing of feeder stock and finished product," Martin said. "It should therefore result in more stable meat prices for the consumer."

The United States cattle and beef industry is large and growing. Department of Agriculture figures show that beef cattle numbers have increased by about 75 per cent over the past 20 years. Beef cattle and calves on farms went from about 59 million head in 1958 to 80 million in 1965.

A recent study sponsored by the Board of Trade on the feasibility of live cattle futures trading pointed out that per-capita consumption of beef also has been rising in the United States. There is every indication that this consumption will continue to accelerate as America's over-all standard of living increases, the study continued, and that parallel developments in other countries will sharply increase world beef consumption as well.

One of the study's conclusions was that ranchers and feedlot operators need a mechanism by which they can protect themselves from the price fluctuations inherent in a rapidly growing market.

Chairman Martin emphasized that trading in the new contract will smooth price fluctuations in two ways:

1. By motivating producers to time their marketing efforts more in terms of gradually shifting market demand, as reflected in future prices, and less in terms of season.

2. By providing everyone with a longer and more comprehensive view of livestock supply and demand.

CONTRACT FEATURES NOTED

Among the important features of the trading contract that has now been approved are:

1. *Unit of trading.* The contract unit is 27,500 pounds of live steers.

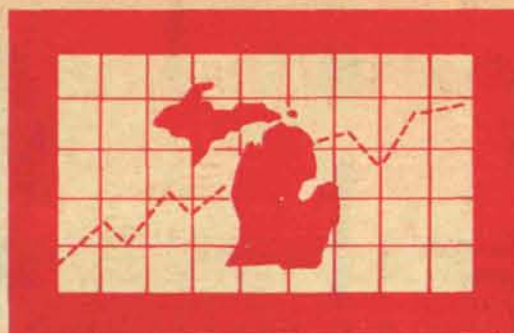
2. *Grade.* The steers shall be Choice grade or better except that up to 6 of the 24 head which constitute a load may be in the top half of the Good grade, at a discount of 2 cents per pound. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will inspect and certify grade, as well as carcass yield and weight.

3. *Delivery procedures and weights.* Delivery during the contract month shall be made in a sealed pen at the Chicago Union Stockyards. Each load must average between 1,100 and 1,200 pounds per head, with no animal varying more than 100 pounds from the average of the load. This requirement reflects the realities of the Chicago market. Minimum weight of the entire load shall be 26,400 pounds. Maximum weight shall be 28,800 pounds.

4. *Price basis and change limit.* Prices will be quoted in units of 100 pounds. Minimum fluctuation is 5 cents per hundredweight. The maximum daily trading limit is \$1.50 per hundredweight above or below the previous day's settlement price.

5. *Commissions.* Board of Trade commission rates for the public shall be \$25 per contract. This amount has been set in relation to commissions for other commodities traded on the Board and to the value of the live beef contract itself.

(Note: It has been announced that choice steer trading on the Chicago Board of Trade will open Tuesday, October 4.)



MARKET DEVELOPMENT



"MACMA HELPS GROWERS—find better markets." This theme highlighted an unusually colorful float in the Lawton Grape Festival. A complete grapevine was featured on the float, supported by James and Conrad Bitely. Others pictured (left) are Edgar Austin, Van Buren County Farm Bureau President; Max Hood, former MFB Board member and Donald Bitely. All three are grape producers serving on the MACMA Processing-Grape Marketing Committee.

SUPPORT TO DRY-BEAN MARKETING State Board Reviews Market Alternatives

Bean business is big business in Michigan where dry edible beans are a major crop. Beans rank among major crops in terms of Michigan farm income, and few crops have greater potential, or greater marketing problems.

At a recent regular meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors in Lansing, considerable time was spent considering how producers of Michigan's 7,668,148 bags of beans can best work together, and through Farm Bureau, to further their interests and add to their income.

Historically, the directors found that Michigan producers have had to sell their beans to limited market outlets without adequate information for realistic marketing decisions.

Recently, they noted, rapid changes in both agriculture and in the dry-bean industry have resulted in fewer and larger buyers and in more specialization on the part of bean growers.

These commercial growers are beginning to recognize an urgent need for a voice in price-determination and other marketing considerations.

Progressive thinking growers express interest in the need for an industry-wide bean producer's marketing organization.

Policy Statement

The board of directors adopted a statement of policy reflecting the Michigan Farm Bureau's interest and concern. In the statement, Farm Bureau is placed on record as "willing to work with any voluntary membership marketing organization of bean growers which is based on realistic economic approaches to solving marketing problems."

The Farm Bureau leaders pointed out that such an organization should provide full representation of bean growers' interests in the market-place, that membership should be comprised of a

majority of the efficient and progressive bean producers.

"The association will need to provide adequate and accurate marketing information to its membership to be of maximum service.

"It must be producer-controlled, adequately financed, competently managed, and with the role of government kept at a minimum," the directors said.

The Bean Pool

It was noted that in 1952 the Michigan Farm Bureau worked with segments of the bean industry to establish the Michigan Co-operative Bean Marketing Association, often referred to as the "bean pool."

To begin, the pool operated fairly successfully, but a number of conditions arose in the industry which made participation in the pool impractical for many bean producers. Most recently, some of these circumstances have been eliminated and at this time, a single industry-wide bean pool offers producers a real opportunity for improved bean marketing.

"We encourage all dry edible bean producers to participate in the 'bean pool,'" the directors said.

Elsewhere in their statement, the board members regarded co-operative marketing programs as having a positive influence on the incomes of bean producers.

"Through the years, producers have made a large investment in facilities and management capabilities. The facilities and personnel of many local cooperatives and the Michigan Elevator Exchange Division of Farm Bureau Services, Inc. have played a vital role in bean marketing both domestic and foreign," the directors said.

At the same time they noted that there must be a greater unity of effort among all cooperatives and that the Michigan Farm Bureau will continue to work with bean producers and cooperatives to develop such greater unity.

The New Bean Commission

During recent years, most bean producer groups have joined with Farm Bureau in pressing for legislation to allow an agency to be created which would work on market development, research and promotion of beans.

Last year the Michigan legislature passed such legislation, establishing the Michigan State Bean Commission.

"We urge bean producers and people within the bean industry to give complete support to the work of the Bean Commission," the Farm Bureau board stated.

"We ask that producers keep themselves informed of the plans and activities of the Bean Commission to be certain that its efforts are always directed to the benefit of the entire industry..."

President's Letter

In a letter to county leaders, Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, encouraged members to work on all phases of bean marketing.

"Certainly the best way to accomplish our goals is for all of us in Farm Bureau to go to work on them.

"As a suggestion, perhaps each Board should ask the Field-Crops or Bean Committee to hold a meeting for all bean growers. The use of the Bean Pool and its value should be discussed. Let's tackle this problem of bean marketing with our entire organization.

"In Farm Bureau we have the knowledge, the tools and the people to solve this and many other problems. Let's do it," Smith said.



GROWER-UNHAPPINESS—with last year's low grape price is reflected in this impromptu sign which appeared in chalk on the back of a juice-cask pulled through the streets of Lawton during the recent Grape Festival there. Growers consider today's costs of producing a ton of grapes at \$100, or more.

SAMPLES SENT TO BUILD OVERSEAS MARKETS!

A big jet airliner got a gourmet stuffing of choice Michigan farm goods September 6 at Detroit Metropolitan Airport when a special shipment of beans, cherry products and mushrooms was loaded for showing at an international food exposition in Munich, Germany.

The foods will be displayed for European grocers and food processors by John Schwartz of the Michigan Department of Agriculture's marketing services in efforts to build export trade in Michigan farm crops.

On hand at the export ceremonies were Senator Gilbert Bursley and Representative James Tierney, chairmen of the legislative economic development committees; Director B. Dale Ball, Michigan Department of Agriculture; Director Bernard Conboy, Michigan Office of Economic Expansion; Marketing Specialist Schwartz; and representatives of the bean, cherry and mushroom industries.

"Michigan's highly diversified agriculture seeks expanding markets abroad, and European nations look hungrily toward our food production," said Agriculture Director Ball. "We are aggressively pursuing foreign markets. The Munich trade fair will bring our farm products under the eyes of buyers from all of Europe and North Africa."

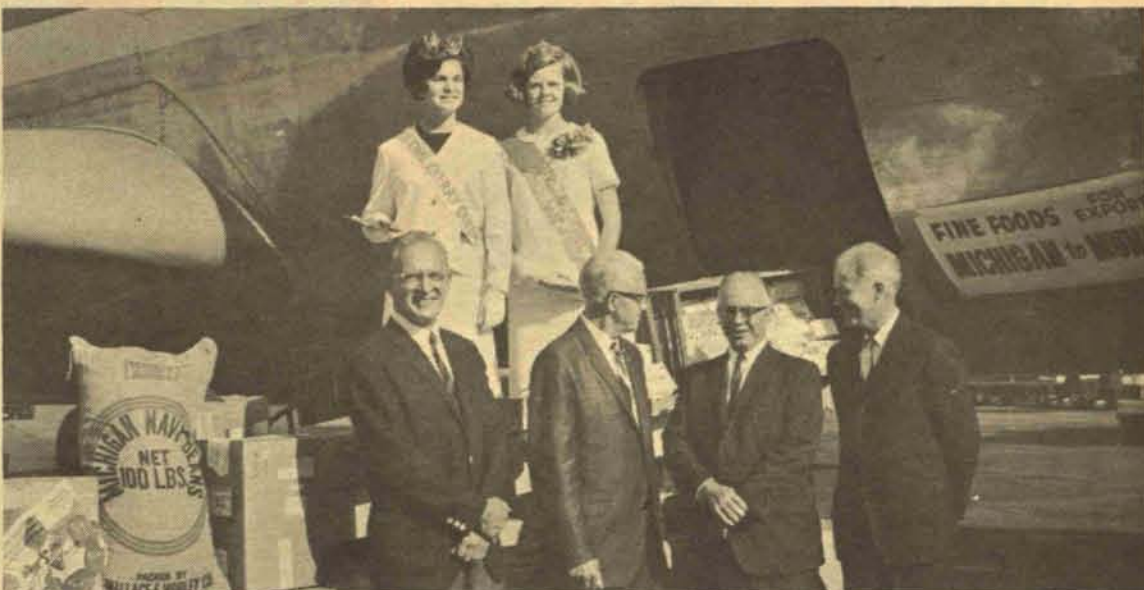
The Munich trade fair participation is an outgrowth of the 1964 Operation Europe, when a group of Michigan businessmen, led by Governor Romney, visited

European countries to study the potential for expanding Michigan's agricultural and industrial exports.

"The food processing industry in Michigan is presently expanding at a favorable rate and shows exceptional promise for the years immediately ahead," said Economic Expansion Director, Bernard Conboy. "Participation in this international food exposition will be of future value to the Michigan food industry as foreign markets develop."

Bean, cherry and mushroom growers and processors have underwritten Michigan's major costs at the Munich fair. They are Michigan Bean Commission, Lansing; Cherry Growers, Inc., Traverse City; Smeltzer Orchard Company, Frankfort; and the Great Lakes Mushroom Cooperative, Warren.

Other aid has come from the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and the Michigan Office of Economic Expansion.



MICHIGAN BEANS, CHERRIES AND MUSHROOMS were sent to Munich, Germany, recently for the international food exposition. At the Detroit Metropolitan Airport for the export ceremonies were: Mary Jane Nolan, national Cherry Queen; Carol Ann Cole, Michigan Bean Queen; (left to right, lower row) State Senator Gilbert Bursley, State Representative James Tierney, Director B. Dale Ball, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture, and Bernard Conboy, Office of Economic Expansion.

BEAN QUEEN

Blonde, blue-eyed Carol Ann Cole, a 17 year old Vassar High School senior, was chosen Michigan Bean Queen at the Michigan Bean Festival in Fairgrove on Labor Day.

Carol Ann, a talented artist, is the daughter of a bean farming

family, Mr. and Mrs. John Cole, Tuscola County Farm Bureau members. She won the crown in competition with entrants from five bean counties in the Thumb and replaces 1966 Bean Queen Diane Foster, Fairgrove.

With the bean crown, Carol Ann won the right to tour the nation with Michigan agricultural queens during 1967 Michigan Week. The queen's tour is spon-

sored by the Michigan Department of Agriculture to promote the state's farm crops.

One of Queen Carol's first official duties was to participate in ceremonies at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport where an airliner was loaded with Michigan-grown beans, cherries and mushrooms for export to Munich, Germany, to help stimulate world trade for Michigan growers.

WEIGHT TAMPERING

The health of many high school athletes is being endangered by the training programs of some of today's coaches, according to nutritionists at the National Live Stock and Meat Board, Chicago.

"Extreme care is exercised in providing protective equipment to prevent injuries and prompt medical care when injuries do occur — so there is no doubt that the coaches and athletic directors and the school administrators are sincerely interested in the welfare of their athletes," said Frances Hall, Meat Board nutritionist and dietitian. "Unfortunately, many coaches, while protecting their athletes from physical contact injury, are, at the same time, inadvertently putting them very much in harm's way by unsound dietary regimens aimed at manipulating the weight of teen-agers.

Some football players are gorged with calorie-loaded, complete-unbalanced diets to get them up to a certain weight. Other athletes, such as wrestlers, are put on unusual diets to keep them within a certain weight range

over a long period of time; and still others are manipulated downward to a certain weight.

"This is particularly dangerous with high school athletes — as opposed, for instance, to professional football players — because they are still in the growing process.

"Like anyone else, an athlete needs a daily diet which includes the 'basic four': four glasses of milk, three or more servings of protein foods (meat, fish, poultry, eggs and cottage cheese), five or more servings of vegetables and fruits and four or more servings of whole-grain or enriched breads or cereals.

"Because he is exercising heavily, the athlete probably will eat more of each of these foods than the average person — but he should eat only as much more as will permit him to maintain his desired weight."

LOG-JAM ON WATER ACTION

In an in-the-family jurisdictional dispute between the President's office and the Congress, the White House has been holding up important conservation projects submitted under P.L. 566, the Small Watershed Program, and not releasing the applications for congressional committee review.

The White House contends the law providing for congressional review is unconstitutional. Until October 1, 1965, the executive office had regularly forwarded applications. Since that date, a backlog of more than 50 projects which had been approved in the states has piled up in the executive offices.

Russell G. Hill, Executive Secretary, Michigan State Soil Conservation Committee, which approves state plans, says that one Michigan project, covering the east branch of the Sturgeon River in Dickinson County, was included in the log jam.

Farm Bureau had urged that the projects be submitted to the congressional committee as required by present law and that "progress in the field of small watershed development may continue."

President Johnson has said that he will propose legislation next year to change the system of approval. House Committee Chairman Harold Cooley (D-North Carolina) says — "I'll not sponsor such a bill and will fight it all the way if it is offered by anyone else."

In this fight between the Administration and the Congress, Chairman Cooley has bipartisan support in his efforts to ward off this threat to the rights of Congress.

U.P. Feeder Sales Set for Oct. 10-11



HARDY NORTHERN BEEF CATTLE from the Upper Peninsula will be sold at two cooperative sales, October 10 in Bruce Crossing, and October 11 at Rapid River. A total of 2,850 calves and yearlings will be offered. The sales are sponsored by the Upper Peninsula Cattle Producers Association.

The Upper Peninsula Cattle Producers Association, in efforts to build a "healthy industry," has scheduled two producer-owned sales, October 10 in Bruce Crossing and October 11 at Rapid River. A total of 2,850 feeders will be offered, with livestock moving directly from the brood herd to the sales yard.

At Bruce Crossing, the sale will include 650 steers and 550 heifers; the Rapid River sale will offer 800 steers and 500 heifers. Yearling cattle will be available at both sales.

According to Rick Hartwig, Extension Specialist, Agricultural Economics, for the Upper Peninsula, all cattle are from TB modified and brucellosis certified free counties, and have been produced and raised under strict requirements in terms of health and condition.

Many of the cattle come from pure-bred herds; the rest from high-quality cross-breeds. All are rugged and high-quality.

Cattle will be moved from the farm of the producer directly to

the sales yard. These sales yards are used for selling feeder cattle only. This means that chances of disease are kept at a minimum.

The cattle will be graded by the Marketing Service of the Michigan Department of Agriculture into four grades — prime, choice, good and standard. They may be inspected at the yards mornings of the sales.

Hartwig suggests that cattle feeders "enjoy a trip to the Upper Peninsula and get some good feeders for finishing on the farm. Thanks to good highways, the feeders only spend a day on the road, and arrive ready to go on feed and ready to gain," he reports.

Northern Michigan Feeder Cattle - 14,000 Head

Sold at Auction on following dates.

Oct. 6	1000 Yrlgs	Gaylord
Oct. 10	1100 Calves — 100 yrlg	Bruce Crossing
Oct. 11	1550 Calves — 300 yrlg	Rapid River
Oct. 13	3000 Calves	Gaylord
Oct. 14	1100 Calves — 300 yrlg	Baldwin
Oct. 15	600 Calves	Gladwin
Oct. 19	1600 Calves — 150 yrlg	Alpena
Oct. 20	3000 Calves — 150 yrlg	West Branch

For Brochure write
MICHIGAN FEEDER CATTLE PRODUCERS COUNCIL
Gaylord, Michigan

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION AROUND MICHIGAN

QUEEN CROWNED



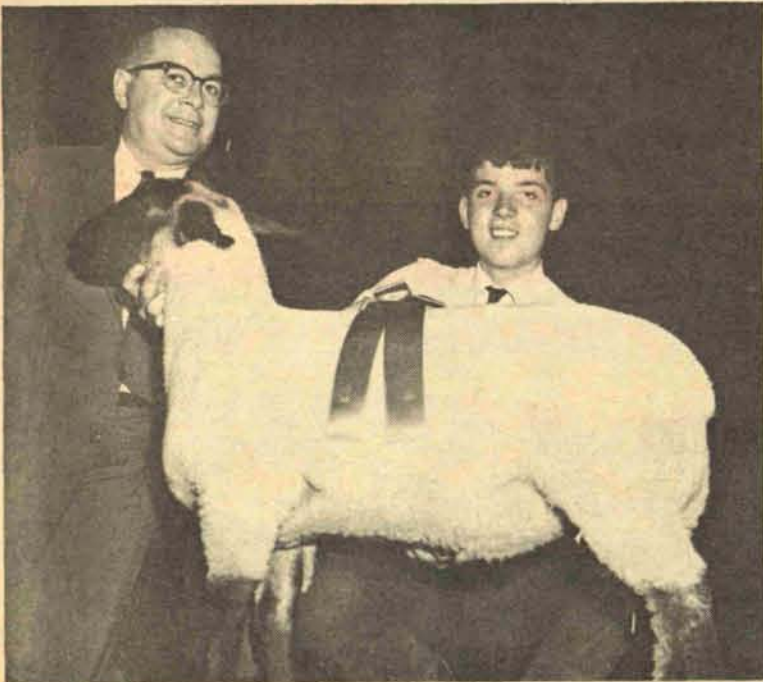
EATON COUNTY F.B. QUEEN—petite Carol Brunger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Brunger, Grand Ledge, smiles happily as she is crowned by the currently reigning Michigan Farm Bureau Queen, Janet Hill. Carol, a junior at Central Michigan University, will represent Eaton County in the state queen contest at this year's M.F.B. annual meeting, November 9-10-11. Miss Hill was the 1965 Eaton Queen.

STATE FAIR CHAMPION



THIS RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION Hereford steer was purchased at auction at the Michigan State Fair coliseum by Edgar Netherton (left) of Food Fair Markets, Detroit. Proud co-owners are Larry Cotton and Neil Orth of Okemos. The animal brought 75 cents a pound.

GRAND CHAMP



MICHIGAN STATE FAIR'S Grand Champion Wether, owned by Fred Savage, Jr., Jackson County Farm Bureau member, Hanover, was purchased by William Brittain (left), Mahogany Farms, Williamston, for \$6.50 per pound.

PROJECT IN UNDERSTANDING



CLERGY-GUESTS—of Calhoun County Farm Bureau Women, visit following a report to the group by Lois Huntington, youthful participant in this year's Citizenship Seminar. Pictured (from left) are Rev. Wm. Dodd, Marshall; Miss Huntington; Gladys Ross, Olivet; Rev. Jack Werkema, Homer and Rev. Lynn Chapel, Springport. About a dozen members of the Clergy were guests at the noon-time luncheon meeting.

SANILAC WOMEN TOUR



FARM BUREAU CENTER, LANSING—was first stop for this group of 40 Sanilac county Farm Bureau Women during a recent tour. Included were other stops at Farm Bureau Services "Home and Garden" store and the Capitol. For many of the group this was the first visit to the Capitol chambers. Beforehand, long-time Legislative Counsel Dan Reed talked to the group, and colleague Bob Smith provided guide-service around the legislative work areas. Sanilac Women's Chairman, Mrs. Howard Mahaffy, led the group on the one-day outing.

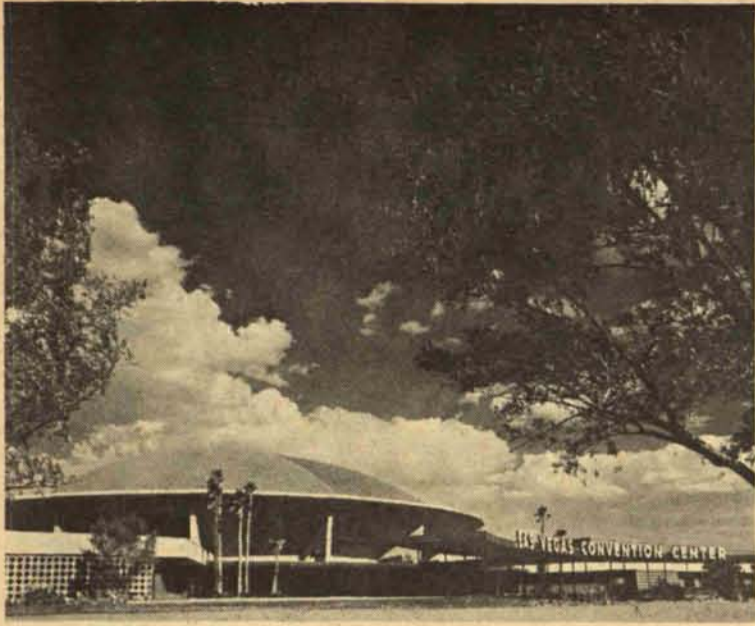
APPLE SMORGASBORD



PICNIC TABLES—loaded with apple products, is the center of attraction at the 16th annual Apple Smorgasbord, held in the orchards of Farm Bureau members Robert Rasch and Sons, near Grand Rapids. "Apples on the Go" was the theme of this year's colorful event. (Additional picture, page 15)

—Howard Miller photo

LAS VEGAS CONVENTION



CONVENTION CENTER — at Las Vegas, attracts a convention group at an average rate of one every two days — year around. This is the site of the upcoming annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Las Vegas Beckons

Michigan folks attending the annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Las Vegas, will be housed in the Convention Headquarters hotel. But unless names are "attached" soon to the over-all block of reservations, they may be lost in favor of others who can confirm attendance. Further, according to travel officials, the principal railroad to be used by Michigan delegates has a new rule this year, and demands "by-name" reservations at least 30 days in advance!

Rooms are currently reserved for 125 persons in the AFBF Headquarters hotel, the "Stardust" and are to be occupied by Michigan members who arrive at the convention by a variety of travel methods. Some will fly directly to the convention site, using an economical group-rate which depends upon 25 or more traveling together. Two groups will leave early by plane and train, and tour California before moving on to the convention.

They will visit the Giant Redwoods, Disneyland and similar west coast attractions and arrive at the convention site in time for the afternoon Vesper Service, Sunday, December 4. Still others are expected to drive by themselves to the convention site. In all cases, Las Vegas hotel reservations must be made through the Michigan Farm Bureau, and will be allotted from within the block of rooms now held in advance. Hotel rates are in the \$10 to \$12 per room class, in keeping with a city economy based largely upon attracting tourists to the many casinos located there. Likewise, food costs are reasonable. For a day-to-day itinerary of both plane and train tours, write the Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau.

Exciting Tours Offered Members

Through special arrangement with the well-known "Hoosier Travel Service"—a number of excellent tours are offered Michigan Farm Bureau members and their friends. They include: **OCTOBER 8:** Mexico — choice of one or two week tour. **OCTOBER 21:** Hawaii — this is the famous "five island" tour. Brochures are available and last-minute arrangements can be made should a surprise-opportunity arise!

ALL AROUND MICHIGAN LOCAL AND IMPORTANT

ANTRIM SETS "PEP" MEET

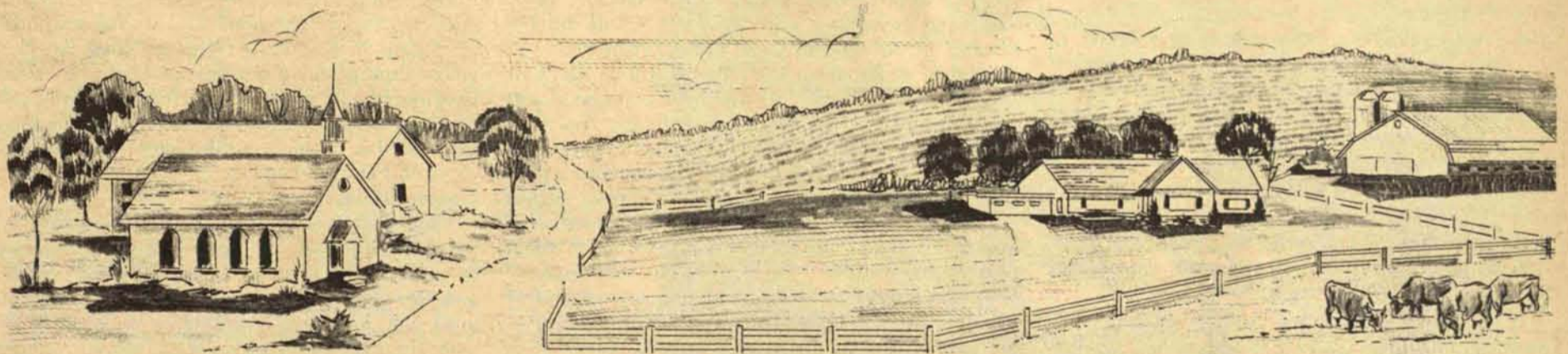
The Antrim County Farm Bureau is sponsoring a "Measure Your Candidate" program under the direction of the county P.E.P. committee (Political Education Program) with the meeting to be held Wednesday, October 26, 8:00 p.m., in the Ellsworth Community School. The county Farm Bureau has invited candidates for both state and national offices, and from both political parties to participate. The committee has made it plain that this is a planned program, not a debate, with each candidate given equal time for an opening statement. A moderator will ask previously prepared questions and equal time will be allotted for each answer, with an "official timekeeper" in charge. Roy Staudenmeyer and Richard Wieland, co-chairmen of the P.E.P. Committee, have been pleased with candidate response. **Interruption** Halfway through the dishes Or a warm and soothing bath Something's bound to happen Which fails to make me laugh! There comes a great vibration A loud and sonorous tone, The odds are ten to one It's our pesky telephone! —Betty I. Smith Ionia County Farm Bureau

CORN PICKING CONTEST

Everything is "go" on the F. W. Leonard farm these days. The Leonard farm, near Adrian, is the scene of the 1966 Michigan State Corn Picking Contest, October 5 and 6. The corn is in fine shape and the count of exhibitors is impressive. There will be in excess of 20 exhibitors present to represent the unusual and latest in corn production and harvesting. Tuesday, October 4, has been set for the contest land drawing for pickers and picker shellers. These drawings will be held at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 5. The contest starts with the first flight taking off at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, October 6, starting at 9:30 a.m., the first flight of the "mixed combine" contest will be run. In addition to the corn picking contest, the program will include demonstrations of all methods of corn harvesting, combining soybeans, chopping or beating of stalks and plowing. These demonstration events are new and should be of real interest. Visitors will be allowed to enter the demonstration fields for the best possible view of the machines in operation. Everything is "go" providing the weather man cooperates!

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.



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AGENTS — Farmers, Contractors, make extra money. Sell special farm equipment. Write Ottawa-Hitch FN321, Holland, Michigan 49423. (10-3t-16b) 8

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Iodine (pure)	.015	.018
Cobalt Sulfate	.01	.03
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100 COMMERCIAL OPEN GILTS
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14 FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Circle steel grain drying and storage bins and equipment. All sizes. Gordon Kleinheksel, Route #5, Holland, Michigan. 138th Avenue between 50th and 52nd Street. Allegan County. Phone Hamilton 751-5270. (Allegan County) (10-4t-31b) 14
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20 LIVESTOCK

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FEEDING HOGS? Use salt free, high analysis Perfect Balancer 8% phosphate mineral feed in your hog feed. Mix one pound of Perfect Balancer with each 100 lbs. of ground feed. You can eliminate bone meal by using Perfect Balancer. Get Perfect Balancer at your elevator. The Gelatin Bone Co., Box 125, Emmett, Michigan. (tf-50b) 20

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26 POULTRY

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DISCUSSION TOPIC

Prepared by the
Education and Research Department
Michigan Farm Bureau

GROWERS' DILEMMA

Soft wheat is a Michigan specialty crop, grown almost everywhere in the state. The 1965 state crop ran to 30 million bushels with a value of about \$50 million. But soft wheat is a declining crop in the eastern states as falling prices prompt farmers to shift to corn and soybean production.

Three years ago, soft wheat varieties found good demand in the market, both domestic and foreign. Production was in good balance with demand, and soft wheat commanded a premium price above the hard varieties. Bakers wanted soft wheat flours for cookies, crackers and pastries.

Soft wheat was never a part of the government surplus problem and never needed government controls. Those wheat problems generated in the hard wheat belt.

But soft wheat growers did not "cooperate" with the United States Department of Agriculture in the 1963 wheat referendum. And they did not sign up for the allotment and certificate program that Congress insisted on passing afterward at the request of the U.S.D.A. So, government policy has been to discipline the soft wheat growers and put on pressure to force them to accept the program. Action has been taken to collapse soft wheat prices and to close export markets for this wheat variety.

The 1964 export record shows 63% of the hard wheat crop was exported, while only 3% of the soft wheat crop moved into world markets. In the past 5 years, half of the U.S. hard winter wheat moved overseas. Soft red wheat was limited to exports of 10%. This difference was largely a product of government "rigging."

Even when the European wheat crop failed in 1964, and when Russia and her satellites wanted wheat, the U.S.D.A. failed to schedule shipments of soft wheats. Instead, 14¢ was lopped off the soft wheat export subsidy and sales were pinched off under Public Law 480. This law permits sales of farm products to other countries for foreign currencies instead of dollars.

Fortunately, in 1964, demand for soft wheats overpowered government policy and soft wheat still brought fair prices for growers.

With wheat in general, the United States has not been in a favorable position in the world market. Heavy supports have helped to push world market prices for wheat higher. Argentina and Australia have been able to underprice wheat from the U.S. and still make a good thing of it. So their wheat moves first, and U.S. wheat takes what's left. We have lost much of the export market that we once enjoyed and we could not get any of it without export subsidy payments.

Government "rigging" can be accomplished in a number of ways. Export subsidies can be juggled. These subsidies affect the price and movement of U.S. wheat varieties in the world market. Export subsidies are the payments made by the government to exporters so that they can sell wheat at or near

world market prices and below prices in the U.S. market. The U.S.D.A. sets these subsidy rates daily for different classes of wheat and for different ports of shipment.

When export subsidies for soft wheats are less than for the hard varieties, exporters raise the soft wheat prices on the world market to make up the difference. Buyers then favor the lower priced varieties — in this case, hard wheats.

On the west coast in 1965, soft wheat export subsidies ran 9¢ a bushel below hard wheat subsidies. This kind of action bottles up soft wheat on the domestic market and causes prices to growers in this country to fall.

Government policies have also cut the shipments of soft wheats out of the P.L. 480 program. Many foreign countries would prefer some share of soft wheat in their shipments, but they are required to take the hard varieties which the U.S.D.A. releases to them. So, again "No Sale!" These are the elements of the squeeze play by the Department of Agriculture against soft wheats.

Meanwhile, acreage allotments to soft wheat growers were being reduced at the same time that some hard wheat states got bigger allotments. Allotments have been upped across the board for 1967, but this is incentive to get more growers to sign up in the program to restore government price-curling surpluses. Farmers now know what can be done with such surpluses.

In 1964-65, soft wheats sold at an average of 15¢ a bushel under the price of hard wheats, even though the hard varieties were in over-supply and soft wheat was more in balance with demand. *Chalk up the score as a raw deal for soft wheat producers.*

Actually, under the certificate program, the government has feathered its nest at the expense of soft wheat producers. In 1964, growers got less than \$40 million in soft wheat government payments. Millers had to pay \$90 million for government certificates and exporters bought \$17 million in export certificates. The balance favoring the government was \$67 million. The theme song for soft wheat growers may well be "that's where our money goes!" And those programs were supposed to aid FARM incomes! The real aim has become clear, however — *government control.*

Delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in 1965 stood strongly against this warping of government programs against soft wheat growers. The Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors appointed a Soft Wheat Study Committee to suggest ways of meeting the threatening situation.

This committee says, "get soft wheat growers organized to challenge the action of the U.S.D.A. in Congress. Join with other soft wheat producing states in an organized effort. Inform our Community Farm Bureaus about this problem."

Michigan Farm Bureau and neighboring states are considering the formation of soft wheat Growers Associations. The American Farm Bureau Federa-

tion is willing to help and coordinate inter-state activities.

The goals are these: To compel the U.S.D.A. to give equal treatment to soft wheats in the export subsidy, shipping schedules and the P.L. 480 programs, and equal consideration with other wheats in granting acreage allotments.

In 1964-65, the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation developed a cooperative "Wheat Bank" program for members in an effort to strengthen the soft wheat producers' bargaining position.

When farmers start something like this, the government makes a counter-move. In the summer of '66 the U.S.D.A. came forth with a similar program. Any such government-controlled program would serve only to strengthen its hand in regulating and enforcing established government policies.

Many farmers have signed to participate in Ohio Farm Bureau's "Wheat Bank and Export Marketing Program" for their 1966 crop. Under this program the farmer is paid 80% of the current market price when he delivers his wheat. He receives the balance when the season's crop is sold, less the costs of the marketing operation. The Farm Bureau Soft Wheat Study Committee is taking a close look at this program.

There could be some definite gains for growers who normally sell their wheat at harvest time. The "bank" can move the wheat gradually to market — spread the sales through the year — thus avoiding price drops which result from glutting the market at harvest time.

Farm Bureau has direct access to terminals for sales on the export market — at Toledo and (for Michigan) in Saginaw. Overseas sales can be promoted through the Farm Bureau Trade Development Corporation in Rotterdam, Holland. *One sale of Michigan soft wheat was made to a firm in England through this contact this summer. The wheat was shipped from the Saginaw terminal of the Michigan Elevator Exchange.*

The Ohio Farm Bureau suggests the forming of a Soft Wheat Growers Council, combining associations from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. This council would help coordinate marketing programs on an area-wide basis. It would unite the voice of the growers and work to strengthen the market position for the commodity.

One thing would seem clear. Growers could gain considerably and have little, if anything, to lose through such an organized approach to marketing their soft wheat.

QUESTIONS

1. What measures do you think should be taken to straighten out the problems of soft wheat pricing and marketing?
2. Would a "Wheat Bank Marketing and Export Program", similar to that of the Ohio Farm Bureau, be a good idea for Michigan?

NEEDED: SOLID MARKETS FOR SOFT WHEAT



APPLES: the problem of price!

MACMA SEEKS FULL-VALUE

— Autumn in Michigan, and the boughs hang low with Red and Golden Delicious, Northern Spy, Greenings, McIntosh, Jonathan and several other varieties of excellent apples.

Other than early spring frosts which damaged many orchards, the crop came comparatively "easy" this year, with little wind and hail damage, and most of the usual pests kept under tight control.

Not as easily solved is the matter of determining, and then securing full-market-value of the crop, estimated to be at 16 million bushels this year. Complicating matters is the fact that as in all other farm marketing, Michigan does not stand alone, but is buffeted on the stormy seas of marketing by waves of competition from other production areas, even from other types of fruit which can be substituted.

Keeping an eagle-eye on all parts of the fast-moving, market situation is the Processing-Apple Division of MACMA, the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association.

Under the guidance of Robert "Bob" Braden, MACMA Manager, and assisted by Royal Call of Farm Bureau's Market Development Division, the militant organization has succeeded in welding together sufficient apple growers to represent an estimated 55 per cent of the crop.

"Most marketing mistakes are made by farmers who have either insufficient information about market conditions or the wrong information," Braden says, pointing out that MACMA is vastly concerned with getting accurate crop and price information to apple members at the time when they need it most — during the harvest and marketing season.

"... And that's right now in Michigan," Braden says. He has developed a rapid-fire system of price checking with major growing areas, major processors and other major apple markets.

Through a flurry of newsletters, grower-members are kept informed of a wide range of market conditions which bear on crop condition, hold-over stocks, competing fruit, and finally — the price for this year's crop.

Working through a Marketing Committee made up of prominent growers, the per hundred-weight value of Michigan's apple crop is determined by apple size and variety. This is compared with other production states and areas, and the whole coordinated through MACMA's membership in the American Agricultural Marketing Association — an affiliate of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

At this point, the Committee sets a price in line with market conditions and demand, and members are held by contractual agreement to offer their apples to "first-handlers" or processors at this determined market-value.

Although no apples are physically handled by the Apple Division of MACMA — actual sales are carried out between growers and processors through the facilities of the agency. Processors are determined to gain a high value crop at low prices. Growers, through MACMA, counter with equal determination to gain full market value for their crop.

Where relatively small growers discovered they had only a small voice when dealing with buyers, all growers have an equally large voice through MACMA, and more growers each year are discovering the advantages.

For this privilege, members pay a modest one-time membership fee in the Association, and agree to abide by conditions of the MACMA sales contract. Later, when the crop has been successfully sold, a service charge is determined by the Marketing Committee, and applied on a percentage basis to those members who sold processing apples.

Last year, growers generally agreed that their efforts through MACMA gained them at least 50 cents more per hundred-weight for their apple crop than would have been possible under former conditions.

Economic conditions this year indicate that another increase in grower prices is justified.

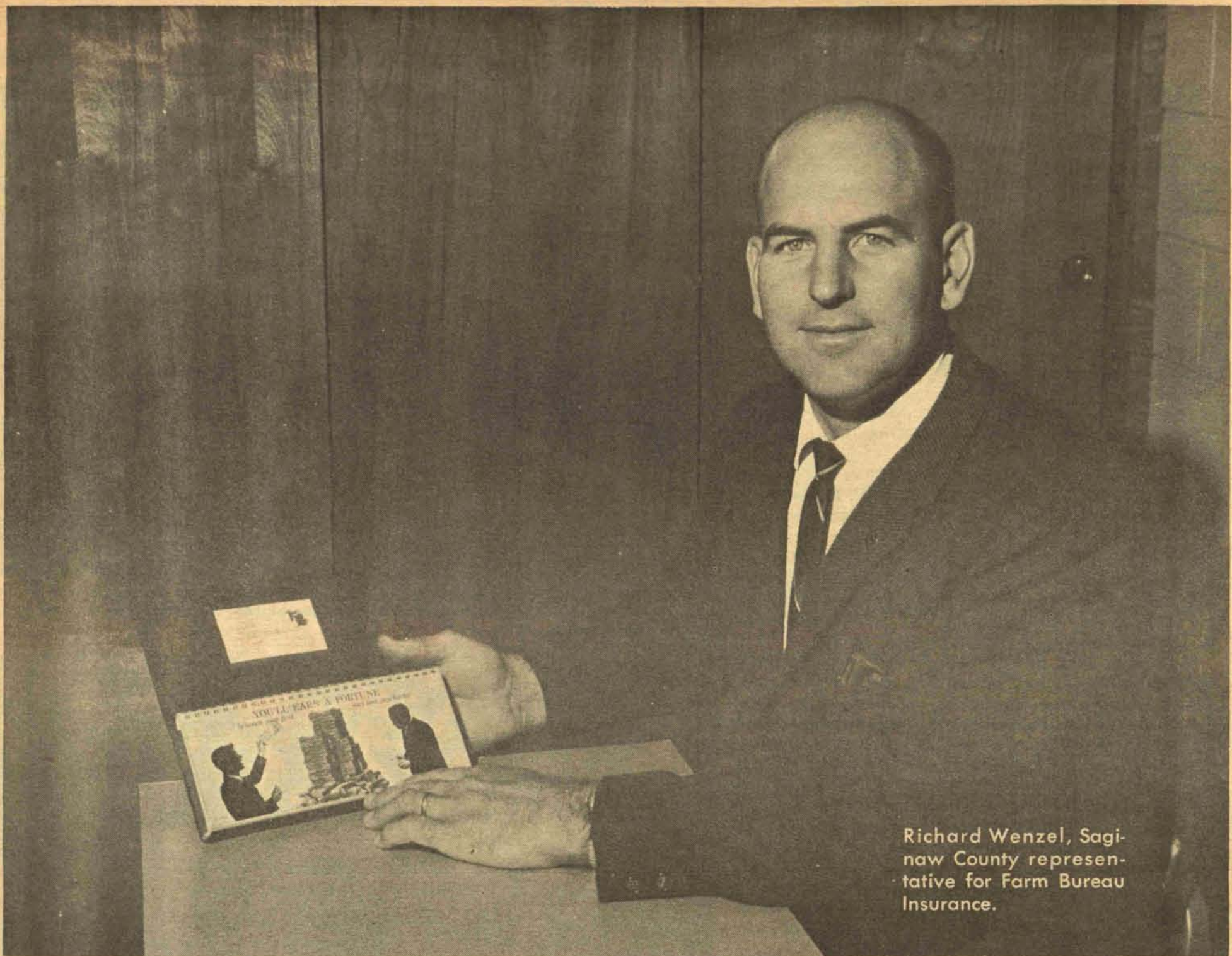
Successes in apple-marketing have encouraged growers of a number of other fruit and vegetable crops to organize special MACMA divisions to gain similar benefits. Most recently, about 200 grape growers have organized a Grape Division and are seeking to improve the per-ton price for this specialty crop.



SPRING FROST — caused some apple damage, but most boughs are loaded in orchards of the state where USDA officials estimate a crop of 16 million bushels. Apple growers are now seeking "full-market value" of the fruit.



ALL MADE WITH APPLES — this smorgasbord table, featured attraction at the recent Peach-Ridge Fruit Growers Association meeting near Grand Rapids, illustrates some of the many dozens of uses for Michigan's big apple crop. Such product promotions are helpful in making sure that the "apple of their eye" for the consuming public is a Michigan Apple. Growers are aware that many market conditions determine final price, and have associated through MACMA to negotiate with processors on these terms of trade. —Photo by Howard Miller



Richard Wenzel, Saginaw County representative for Farm Bureau Insurance.

DICK WENZEL HAS AN IDEA . . . THAT CAN HELP YOU SAVE MONEY !

Chances are, you and your family are looking ahead – planning for tomorrow. Maybe you're hoping to build a new home, or provide a college education for the youngsters, or enjoy a comfortable retirement. And, most progressive families have plans to save \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000 or more – to meet those *specific financial goals*.

This is where Mr. Wenzel comes in. He has an idea for a personal savings plan with these advantages:

1. It is *guaranteed* to help you save regularly.
2. It is *guaranteed* to return a profit on your investment.
3. It is *guaranteed* to provide money for those *specific financial goals* – even in case of death or disablement of the family breadwinner.

Best of all, with this particular savings plan, you won't have to worry about economic fluctuations – you don't have to be a stock market expert to protect your investment. *It's guaranteed to be profitable.*

So, if you and your family are interested in saving money, call Richard Wenzel at 642-5235 in Hemlock (area code 517). Or, call your *local* Farm Bureau Insurance Agent. He's got the same idea.

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