ties, ways to increase yields and supply of soybeans and soybean to increase acreage itself. Goals of the world food crisis, the population explosion, and triggered by India's current famine riots, one on bills "to protect domestic consumers against an inadequate supply of soybeans and soybean products. Testimony included need for more research on soybean varieties, ways to increase yields and to increase acreage itself. Goals were discussed aimed at increasing 1966 soybean acreage by two or three million acres.

CONGRESS and the Administration are taking a new look at agriculture, Michigan Farm Bureau members found on their recent visit to the Nation's Capital. Only a year ago, "Farm Controls" and "Agricultural Surpluses" keynoted consideration of farm legislation. With the new recognition of the world food crisis, the population explosion, and triggered by India's current famine riots, the so-called unmanageable surpluses have now become reserves.

In a recent Air-Tour of Washington, members of the Farm Bureau group attended a number of committee hearings, including one on bills "to protect domestic consumers against an inadequate supply of soybeans and soybean products. Testimony included need for more research on soybean varieties, ways to increase yields and to increase acreage itself. Goals were discussed aimed at increasing 1966 soybean acreage by two or three million acres.

One witness recommended a 10% increase in price support to encourage increased acreage. Others opposed such an increase, saying that the action would place a ceiling on prices and limit markets. Farm Bureau members found support for restoring appropriations for the school milk program. One Congressman said he found it difficult to explain the Administration's recommended cuts in the school milk program while at the same time there were recommendations for inauguration of a federally-supported school breakfast program.

The farmers discovered little apparent concern about inflation and the rising national debt were well above the 300 billion mark. They learned that taxpayers must pay 13 billion dollars each year, solely on interest, a sum amounting to approximately ten dollars out of each 100 collected by the Internal Revenue Service.

One Michigan Congressman told the group that in his opinion, "inflation at the present time is not a threat", that it could be, but was "watched closely." Meanwhile, the federal government will be mailing out checks totaling $146 billion this year. This amount, exceeding by nearly one-half of the so-called annual budget, includes payments to Social Security recipients, railroad retirees, and other programs which are not included in the budget figures but are supported by various earmarked taxes.

Few households in our nation do not look to direct federal checks, or indirectly to income resulting in part or in whole from federal contracts, federal employment or some form of federal aid. It seemed to the Farm Bureau delegation that this concentration of spending power in Washington creates a formidable political power.

MICHIGAN JAYCEES — in annual competition, awarded Lutz the "Most Outstanding" title from among 19 candidates nominated by local Chapters. A nursery and fruit farmer, he owns 589 acres near Kaleva. Five years ago he pioneered the development and introduction of the new "Midway" strawberry which now represents 60 per cent of Michigan's nine-million dollar strawberry industry. (Photo: Manistee News-Advocate)
NOW WE KNOW...

Good or bad, farmers need to know where they stand. If the operating statement throt- ters to show a loss instead of hoped-for profit, few farmers put off adding things up to make certain.

Perhaps the knowledge of where Michigan farmers stand with the Administration in Wash-ington and with Michigan members of the majority party there is the most important single thing to come out of the recent Farm Bureau Air-Tour to the capitol.

Summed up, it comes out something like this: there is a definite problem of significance, and since everyone has a right to "participate in the production of America" farmers must expect to be used as a dumping ground for unskilled labor as their contribution toward helping solve the welfare problems of society.

Farmers are with Michigan's Demo-cratic members to Congress, 67 Farm Bureau members on this year's tour (see story, page 9) were honored by the presence of Congressmen Paul F. Douglas of Illinois, and Robert K. H. Vivi-an and Billie Farmum. Senator Philip Hart sent a top personal representative to meet with the group.

The lawmakers represented many important committees of Congress, including the House agricultural committee, where Congressman Mackie serves as a member. After the luncheon questions put to Mackie and the others, got down to the heart of which is bothering farmers.

Penetrating remarks by Calvin Lutz, Michi- gan's newly selected "Most Outstanding" young farmer, and a man who has had bitter experi- ence with the farm labor shortage, got things started off.

"The Midwest is almost in a labor crisis and you have to recognize it. The big push is to recog-nize it. Instead, the big push is for an increase in the minimum wage and to include farmers. Why should this be at a time when President Johnson says inflation is the number-one domes-tic problem?" Lutz asked.

Mackie's reply: "I do not agree that inflation is our most important domestic problem. The Secretary of the Treasury says that it could be, and is watching it closely, but at the present time it is not a threat." Mackie said that he in- volved every farm labor shortage claim, and found that "at least half of the problems re-sulted from the attitudes of farmers themselves." He turned the rest of the question over to Warren Farnum, Michigan's Labor coordinator in the Detroit area, and is a member of the House Labor Committee.

Farnum admitted that he had been disturbed by a "less than adequate job" done in locating and using available labor. Then, he said that al- though some foreign labor is more efficient, no program such as the use of "A Teams" might recruit people back into farming. He didn't explain for what purpose, but implied that this was good, "for all have a right to par-ticipate in the production of America."

Nothing was said about the right of a farmer to continue operating his farm as a business, rather than as a training ground for the inefficient. Plain as that was, Congressman Vivian laid it out even more plainly. "We still have 200,000 unemployed miners in Appalachia," he said. "When you see such a person even though he may pick the wrong beans or injure the toma- toes, you are helping solve the welfare prob- lems.

From this, one would gather that farmers are expected to forget the already border-line economics of farming and freely offer their crops and land as training grounds for the rehabilitation of welfare cases.

Said Congressmen Vivian: "I hope we do have farmers included in the federal minimum wage law to help cut down welfare costs and the chances of inflation."

"We must adjust the amount of contribution farmers make to these welfare programs," Vic- tin said.

So, there you have it, loud and clear.

President's Column

NO DILE TALK

Farm Bureau provides a "best opportunity" for members. Other organizations have praised it. I wish that more members would make use of it.

The opportunity is one for open discussion. It is not quite a meeting of the minds, but a meeting of the minds. It is a planned, organized opportunity in our Community Farm Bureaus.

No member needs to stand aside and say that other men should take care of their problems. An- member can get in on the game if he wants to get neighbors together and form a group of his own. The Farm Bureau will help you organize. Just ask them.

We do a lot of talking and discussing whether we are in groups or not. Discussion is a kind of thinking in action. Being able to state the problem and how it concerns us. Why should we waste so much of it just chatting and not intending to put our thoughts to work? Organized Community Farm Bureaus offer good group discussion in a planned way to reach channels where our ideas can count.

I have talked to very few Farm Bureau mem- bers who didn't have something to say about what Farm Bureau ought to be doing. I think that every member ought to have a voice in Farm Bureau and farm affairs. But the mem- ber needs to speak as a farmer and member where it counts. So much of our conversation ends with just talking things over.

Many of the ideas that guide Farm Bureau come out of our Community Discussion Groups. Discussions don't need to be limited to state and national issues. Many of our formal topics go that way, but . . . our opportunity doesn't end there.

I was asked to talk at the Farm Bureau "Presidents' Conference" in February. At that con- ference, I started a game of "sic 'em." No, I wasn't trying to get a dog fight going. I was trying to get some help from our members to work saying that the most important problems are right home in the counties and then doing something about them.

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I might be able to start the other half of this game of "sic 'em" right here. I would ask the members to start the ball rolling. Members can start by expressing your views in your county to put Farm Bureau in the front line of action. You can make yourselves felt in the counties as you have never done before. You can Farm Bureau to the limit.

We should remove one of the "kinks" in our thinking. Did you ever look through the wrong end of a telescope or a pair of field glasses? Many of us look at Farm Bureau like that when it is "on the program" but . . . our opportunity doesn't end there.

Mackie finished that thought and said: "If you can count.

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Farm Leaders
See Advances

An amazing number of important farm research projects are underway at Michigan State University. That conclusion was quickly reached by members of the Michigan Farm Bureau board in a recent tour of research facilities at the College of Agriculture.

There they saw projects in insect control, in plant and animal nutrition and in solving labor problems for farmers through mechanical harvesters. Many of the animal-science projects had long-range implications for human health.

The two-and-a-half hour bus tour took board members, affiliated company managers and Farm Bureau staff-member guests to plant science research greenhouses, to a dairy barn, the department of avian physiology, and a group of pigeon buildings where, in controlled environment, thousands of cereal leaf beetles were reared, studied and tested.

At the plant science greenhouses, Dr. C. E. Peterson displayed experimental varieties of cucumbers as the research men seek a type suited to mechanical harvesting.

"Last year Michigan cucumber growers lost two million dollars because of a lack of harvested labor, and another two million dollars through lowered quality," Dr. Peterson told the Farm Bureau leaders.

He explained that due to the nutrition habits of cucumbers, researchers are having difficulty finding a strain which will be adaptable to mechanical harvesting. The stubborn "cucumber" tends to set only one fruit at a time, waiting for each to mature before setting another. Only one or two strains have been found which will produce as many as a dozen fruits at one time. These are being tested and improved.

Since once-over mechanical harvesting pulls up and destroys the entire plant, before this deliberate waste can be tolerated, a variety of pickling cucumbers which develops a full crop of "pickles" at the same time must be found.

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"Solution to these problems is in the use of new experimental strains of prolific cucumbers for pickling."

In the dairy barns, Dr. D. D. Brown showed the group how dairy researchers can detect traces of pesticide residues ingested by the animals through analysis of body fat. The present "zero tolerance" levels set for chemical residues in milk by Federal agencies make this "watchdog" work all the more important, the farm leaders agreed.

Colonies of field mice used by Dr. Fred Elliott may bring Michigan farmers a superior strain of alfalfa, the towing group learned. The mice are used in nutritional studies with each generation fed from a single plant and thinned compared with other mice fed similarly.

The medical relation between man and other living creatures was again demonstrated effectively by staff members of the avian physiology department where heart studies of poultry are underway using electro-cardiographic machinery common to hospitals.

"One human death in each 1,000 is caused by internal bleeding similar to that which occurs in poultry, particularly in turkeys," reported Dr. B. K. Ringer. Much of the current work of the department is keyed to finding the causes for this form of heart trouble in poultry with all of its implications for humans.

Another unusual area of work for the department is that done in producing mink which are hardy and able to adapt to foods more readily available than the near-meat presently preferred. Pelt color and condition are also under careful study by the research men.

Although something of a break-through has been reported in control of the cereal leaf beetle, little progress has been found in curtailing the stubborn Dutch Elm disease, according to those working in entomological research.

A potential parasite which lives on the edges of the cereal leaf beetle is under intense study, and the fact that excellent control is now obtained by use of very small amounts of malathion (about three ounces to the acre) — and without detectable chemical residue, is encouraging.

Electrocardiograph machine used in poultry research is demonstrated by Dr. R. K. Ringer, M.S.U. Poultry Department. A NEW MINK COAT is Mrs. Max Hood's suggestion for next Christmas. Her husband, being a practical and economizing man, suggests that the bulletin entitled, "Mark Ranching," might be a good way for her to get the desired coat.

Last fall, voting delegates wrote: "Agricultural research is essential to maintain the efficiency of agricultural production. New problems continually arise in the production and marketing of agricultural crops and in the field of farm management.

"Solution to these problems must be supplied through basic and applied research. This research can best be done by educational institutions such as Michigan State University . . . ."

That this work is being effectively done, those on the tour will be quick to attest.

However, a story that largely remains to be told is about the importance of this work to all citizens, not just to farmers alone.
A schedule of county size is set up and for those counties of less than 5,000 population, there could not be more than seven supervisors; 5,001 to 10,000—not more than ten; 10,001 to 50,000—not more than 15; 50,001 to 105,000—not more than 25; 105,001 to 160,000—not more than 35; 160,001 to 200,000—not more than 40; 200,001 to 250,000—not more than 45; over 250,000—not more than 50.

This will be a greater change for the larger counties than for the small. For example, Wayne County now has 22 supervisors; Oakland has 86, and Kent has 73.

The counties would be apportioned by a commission consisting of the County Clerk, Treasurer, and Prosecuting Attorney.

Other requirements include: districts must be single member, compact, contiguous, and as nearly square as possible; townships are not to be combined with cities, nor are townships, villages, cities and precincts to be divided unless necessary to meet the population requirements.

Provision is made that any registered voter of the county could petition the State Court of Appeals, but an apportionment plan must be submitted with the petition.

An important amendment was added excluding from the population figures, those residents of institutions (schools, prisons, hospitals, etc.) who cannot by law register in the county as electors.

This is very controversial. The House vote was 65 to 32. Those voting against the bill were from both parties and in most cases represented out-state areas. They maintain that this issue concerning local government should not have been considered until the Michigan Supreme Court decided the Kent County apportionment case now before it. It is presently unconstitutional, as Section 7, Article 7 of the Constitution states "A Board of Supervisors shall be established in each organized county consisting of one member from each organized township and such representation from cities as provided by law." The Supreme Court has not made a decision as to the validity of this section.

Those supporting the bill say that if it becomes law, it can be submitted to the Supreme Court for interpretation. If county boards are reapportioned, each township would continue to have an elected supervisor to perform assessment and other township duties.

Farm Bureau policy maintains that area should also be a consideration if county apportionment according to population is determined required by the Supreme Court's decision on this issue, which is presently before it. There are many practical problems involved such as determining population within those townships that may be split, as present census data does not give this information.

The Legislature, in this bill, has set a precedent by recognizing one of the glaring inequities in the apportionment of the Legislature itself, and that is the over-representation many areas now have, due to large numbers of people in institutions, such as colleges, military bases, prisons and hospitals.

After five Northern Democrats changed their votes during the roll call, the House passed the Cotton Promotion bill by a vote of 198-191. Among those who changed their Nay vote to Yea during the roll call was Congressman Weston Vivian, representing Michigan's 2nd District.

Without the vote change, the bill (strongly opposed by Farm Bureau) would have been defeated.
FRUIT PLANTINGS:

TAX RELIEFS OUGHT

Do you raise blueberries? If so, is your tax assessment based on a value of $2,000 to $3,000 per acre, or $2.40 per four-year-old plant?

Perhaps you are a cherry producer if so, is part of your assessment based on an appraised value of $4 for each mature tree? Or in the case of a strawberry grower—is your assessment based on an appraised value of $400 per acre for the crop?

These are some of the facts brought out at a March 9 hearing on "Senate Bill 352." In the 1965 session of the Legislature, Senator Vanderploeg (D-East Grand Rapids) introduced S. 352, which bears his name.

Last summer Senator Vanderploeg held hearings throughout the state to determine the effect of present assessment practices on farmers growing fruits, berries, etc.

It was found that in most counties fruit farms are presently assessed at total units, based on actual sale values, but there is an alarming tendency, especially in the middle and growing regions, to assess trees and bushes based on the Tax Committee Manual, which was written in 1958.

For example, under the manual, cherry trees might be assessed anywhere from $1 to $2 per tree, based on age; Apple trees, $2 to $10; Pear trees, $1 to $15; Peach trees, $2 to $25; Strawberry bushes, $10 to $25; Blueberry bushes, $1.10 to $2.50; Strawberry plants, $400 per acre, and other fruits in like proportion.

No consideration is being given to the fact that in many cases it takes years, with much expense, before a salable crop might be realized, and then the variety may have lost its popularity and may not lend itself to new processing techniques.

S. 352 is now receiving some consideration in this legislative session and a hearing has been held by the Senate Taxation Committee. Farm Bureau, working closely with Senator Vanderploeg, brought in several county leaders to support the passage of this legislation.

These included Ray Anderson and "Pete" Lutz from Manistee County, Don Hill, Genesee County; Wesley Prillwitz and Adolph Dangemuller, Berrien County; Kenneth Wall, Muskegon County; Paul Arrnstrut, Allegan County; O. L. Herkner, Grand Traverse County, and Larry Mainland, Oakland County.

Mr. Mainland is not only a session a tax assessor, but is also a Supervisor in Oakland County, which is considered largely urban and suburban, where it is found that "it is a policy not to assess trees and shrubs separately," and added that, "their presence makes no addition to the value of the property," that "ownership is no guarantee of income."

Petie Lutz and Don Hill pointed out that "it is totally inequitable to assess each tree, bush, etc., simply because they happen to be on the land on the tax date of December 31."

Lutz has also been named Michigan's Most Outstanding Young Farmer.

Farm Bureau's statement, prepared for the committee, pointed out that 26 states now exempt growing crops from taxation and that in reality fruit trees, bushes and vines are "growing crops," even though they remain in the ground over a period of time.

Four states, California, Oregon, Ohio and New Jersey, give specific consideration to these crops, including total exemption. At least two County Board of Supervisors, Antrim and Oakland, have passed resolutions supporting S. 352.

Farm Bureau said it is unrealistic to assess each tree, bush, etc., beginning the day of planting and continuing for years before it can be known whether the crop will survive or the variety will be salable," also, "taxes must not take away a landowners incentive to undertake the costly planting and care of crops with no guarantee whatever of a return on his investment."

Farm Bureau is working very closely with Senator Vanderploeg and the Taxation Committee in an effort to get favorable action on S. 352.

All Farm Bureau members affected should contact their Legislators now.

Relief on farm personal property taxation is halfway to the finish line. The "Berrien Bill," which increases the exemption on farm personal property from the present $1,000 to $5,000, has passed the House by a vote of 103 to 2. It is now in the Senate Taxation Committee.

House Bill 3107, introduced by Representative Matthaeussen, has a chance of being reported out of committee, and would further exempt farm personal property taxes by exempting farm stored products such as fruit, grains, feed, etc., from taxation.

Senate Bill 918 provides that after July 1, 1969, real estate used for breeding, feed and shelter for migrant workers shall be exempt provided it meets minimum standards.

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Jack McKendry

Jack McKendry (49), manager of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., died suddenly March 6 at a Lansing hospital. He had served as general manager of the state-wide oil cooperative since 1959. Farmers Petroleum owns and operates oil wells in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky, and markets petroleum supplies throughout the state.

A native of Illinois, McKendry began his career in distribution of farm supplies as a district fieldman for the Illinois Farm Supply Cooperative. In 1954, he moved to Michigan and became sales manager for Farmers Petroleum.

McKendry was a director of the Michigan Gas and Oil Association, American Petroleum Industries, Central Michigan Oilmen's Club, and Michigan Petroleum Industries.

He is survived by his wife, Loretta, who is president of the Women's Council of the Lansing Board of Realtors; a brother, Edwin, stationed with the Army in Kansas, and a sister, Lillian, of Lockport, Illinois.

EMPHASIS ON SAFETY

What more will we do for Safety? was the challenge extended to the 47 participants of the State Safety Workshop, recently in Mt. Pleasant, by Mrs. Eugene DeMato, chairman of the Farm Bureau Women Safety Committee.

Representatives from 30 counties accepted the challenge by pledging hard work and determination to meet the problems of traffic safety. Those attending the conference took back to their local communities information on the importance of slow-moving vehicle emblems, traffic safety legislation and the Driver Improvement Program (DIP).

Featured on the program were: Miss Helen Atwood, Michigan Farm Bureau; Miss Ruth Hooper, Alma; Mrs. Dessie DeGroot, Bellaire; Mrs. Leota Westfall, traffic safety specialist, Michigan State University; Mrs. Earl Hendricks, Kalkaska, and Mrs. DeMato.

Announcement was made of a contest for "Mrs. Safety - 1966" sponsored by the women's division of the Michigan Safety Conference. The contest is open only to "volunteers" who have shown outstanding achievement in safety leadership. The winner will be officially crowned during the Michigan Safety Conference at the Lansing Civic Center, April 27.

Mrs. George Southworth, chairman of District 6 Farm Bureau Women, reports safety activity on the county level. Huron County women invited Mrs. Westfall to discuss safety and what they could do about Michigan's traffic accident record.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women plan to continue their emphasis on safety during 1966, as they "second" the statement made by Governor Romney in his "State of the State" message: "Michigan is the automotive and highway capital of the world. I urge that you join in making it the traffic safety capital of the world."

MACF LEADER-CLINICS

Over 300 directors representing 65 different cooperatives attended a series of clinics for managers and directors, sponsored by the Michigan Association of Farmers Cooperatives during March.

Purpose of the clinics was to challenge managers and directors to new goals and ideas, and to get acquainted with other cooperatives and their programs.

In presenting new ideas, we believe in using actual practical demonstration, therefore, each meeting begins with a tour of a successful agri-business in the area," explained L. A. Cheney, MACF executive secretary.

This provided participants an opportunity to see first hand some of the new equipment being used at the cob processing plant in Coldwater, the automatic equipment at Producers Creamery in Benton Harbor, the equipment producing steering parts at the Saginaw Steering Gear plant and the processing of potatoes at the Ore-I-da plant in Greenville.

Cheney reports that three directors arrived at the Coldwater meeting by plane. Wayne Cope- land, flying farmer from the Fow- lerville cooperative board, picked up neighboring board members, J. B. Bedford and Walter Kreb, and observed the cob plant from the air.

The clinics featured a discussion regarding opportunities fueling cooperatives by Dr. George Statzwick, chairman, M.S.U. Agricultural Marketing Center.

Each organization had an opportunity to give a progress report for the past year at the clinics. Many reported an increase in volume after adding new equipment and services.

"Our cooperative leaders, having a faith in the future, are attending clinics and other programs to prepare themselves to meet their responsibilities in directing the organization," said Cheney. "The need for strong cooperation was never greater — to help meet the needs of an expanding agriculture."

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New Affiliate Formed

Michigan has a new cooperative farm association, as the Michigan Farm Bureau became "parent" to another in a growing list of affiliate service companies.

Through action of the board of directors in a special meeting February 21, unanimous approval was given to the establishment and placing service, and the hope expressed that a number of seasonal farm workers could be recruited and placed on Michigan farms this spring.

Farm Bureau board; Paul Patton, fruit producer, Farmington, and Duane Baldwin, vegetable producers, Stockbridge.

Articles of incorporation were drawn, and the board will name management personnel to direct the activities of the new cooperative. Lawrence Prentice, Secretary Manager of the Michigan Farm Bureau, was elected secretary-treasurer of the new corporation, and will supervise over-all management.

At a recognition that financial help will be required to launch the new activity, the board took action to provide matching funds to supplement fees to be paid into the organization by growers.

As the program expands and stabilizes, Farm Bureau funds will be reimbursed to the extent advanced.

Listed among the objectives of the labor placement service was assistance to members in processing and placing farm workers for "production, harvesting, processing and transportation of agricultural commodities produced by the members."

For this purpose, each cooperator would pay $1.00 to the corporation as a membership fee, and would add a "capital contribution" of $25.00. If he produces less than 50 acres of labor intensive crops, he will be paid for more than 50 acres of such crops.

Each use of the service must also be a Farm Bureau member.

The new Farm Bureau affiliate was formed in direct response to a request from Farm Bureau directors who at the last annual meeting expressed: "The Michigan Farm Bureau should continue with a study of a Farm Bureau farm labor service, and if determined feasible, proceed with the establishment of such service in 1966."

Studies underway at that time were continued and expanded by the Market Development department of the Michigan Farm Bureau, with special attention given to the extent to which workers would lend their support.

They were encouraged by a survey showing that nearly all growers felt a great need for a farm labor recruitment and placement service which could provide a dependable supply of workers as needed. The growers also indicated willingness to support such a service financially.

In endorsing the labor placement service, the Farm Bureau leaders noted that the Michigan pickling cucumber industry alone has been faced with staggering problems caused by lack of qualified labor at a time when it was most needed.

Michigan State University specialists have credited this lack with causing Michigan cucumber growers around two million dollars in lost income this year. They add that "huge amounts" have also been lost through lower quality for those cucumbers which were picked.

The labor problem is single-handedly credited with edging Michigan out of its once solidly held "number one" spot among cucumber growing states in the nation, with output dropping a third in a single year.

Similar substantial losses have been reported in other fruit and vegetable crops, with nearly two million bushels of apples left unpicked last fall.

In giving the "go ahead" to the labor placement service, Farm Bureau leaders pointed out that the success of the organization will depend upon the willingness of farmers to use the cooperative in contracting for needed temporary help.

"If farmers themselves do not provide such service, others will — others who perhaps cannot accurately judge what is needed by farmers and who care little" — one official said.

HONOR LONG-TIME SERVICE

A combined 34 years of dedicated service to Michigan agriculture were cited at the February 22nd meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors when three retiring members of the board were given special recognition for the part they have played in the growth of the organization.

Walter Wightman, Fennville, was cited for his 10 years of service as "director at large" — six of these as president of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Wightman was a charter member of both the Michigan Farm Bureau and the Allegan Extension.

A full-time farmer all his life, Wightman and his wife, Alice, live on a 270-acre "Centennial Farm" in Allegan County. In addition they own, with son Albert ("Bud"), another 200 acres. Much of the Wightman operation is devoted to the production of apples, peaches and cherries. They also finish about a hundred steers each year.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Wightman have been active over the years in community, church and local government affairs.

Cited for his service over a period of ten years on the board as executive secretary was a service financially.

The Michigan Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) has taken over its own "housekeeping service," to allow funds previously spent by Michigan Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) originated in 1926. Farmers, through assistance from a dairy herd tester, keep production records and feed costs. Through these records, they are able to determine the best producing cows in the herd and improve efficiency and income.

Dr. Charles A. Lassiter, chairman of the MSU Dairy Department, called the move a "real milestone" for Dairy Herd Improvement Association in Michigan. It shows real interest and dedication on the part of the board of directors to provide the kind of program Michigan dairymen need and demand."
They have led the parade

By Don Kinsey

I would like to pay tribute to the Farm Bureau Women while I am still around and in the saddle. Remember how first impressions of people sometimes hit you? My first impression of the Farm Bureau Women somewhat over seventeen years ago was "By golly, but they're go-getters!"

As a newly appointed member of the staff, I saw Farm Bureau as a rather astonishing organization generally. Here was a big organization of farmers. But most members seemed to take it as their own affair. It took me some time to get my bearings amid all the things that were going on. But I was impressed that so many members were deeply involved in those affairs.

Community Groups were on the rise, and I found the unbelievable figure of nearly 30,000 families attending the group meetings during some months. I was tickled to death to have a hand in that kind of an organization.

But over the years, the Farm Bureau Women have led the parade in carrying on activities that count. They cut and sewed their cloth to big patterns. They worked on the grand scale.

This leader of the Farm Bureau Women goes on to point out that as the Women turn their efforts into accomplishments within their home communities, enthusiasm and inspiration build in their work, personal participation, recognition that without such working relationships, nothing works.

They carried on campaigns to equip hospitals and established a number of Cancer Detection Clinics. They worked and received some recognition for their efforts.

The Farm Bureau Women have recognized that the field of opportunity to which they can devote themselves is a never-ending one. With the women, the fact of cooperation and unity of effort has been a practice — not just a slogan.

Their approach to Farm Bureau has recognized that the important thing is not simply what Farm Bureau has accomplished nor what it has done for people — but rather HOW it was done.

The Farm Bureau Women have demonstrated that cooperation is not merely a matter of adding one member’s efforts to those of another. They have shown that in working together the benefits and results are compounded and multiplied.

That, this is, is the monument that the Farm Bureau Women have built to themselves through their years of achievement.
COMING ELECTIONS "MOST IMPORTANT"

Washington Tour Group Urged to Become Active

Michigan farm leaders taking part in the recent Air-Tour to the nation's capital, were told that if they dislike what Congress is doing they have it within their power to cause a change in direction.

Speaking was Jack Lynn, Legislative Director for the American Farm Bureau Federation, who said that the most important single thing that could be done by farmers is to see that conservatives are elected to Congress.

He told the 67 Farm Bureau people taking part in the tour that the coming elections will be the most important thing happening this year, and that farm people have it within their power to make sweeping changes.

There are 2,760 county Farm Bureaus in the United States. Lynn said "and if we had only one-half of these active and working as effectively as they can, we would be in the condition we are today." He pointed out that all members of the House of Representatives are up for election, and that in his opinion, many present members should be replaced by people who "will be more than a rubber-stamp for the President."

Lynn, along with other members of the American Farm Bureau Washington staff, briefed the Michigan group on current issues before Congress as part of the formal program of the Tour.

Sponsored by Michigan Farm Bureau Women, the group was headed by Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, chairman of the state's Farm Bureau Women's Committee. Assisting were staff members of both the Public Affairs and Information Divisions.

Dan Reed, MFB Legislative Council, arranged for the group to meet with Michigan members of Congress through breakfast and luncheon programs. Congressmen present at the gatherings included: Weston E. Vilesan, (D-2nd District); Paul H. Todd, Jr., (D-3rd District); Edward Hutchinson, (R-4th District); Charles E. Chamberlain, (R-6th District).

Others present were: Robert P. Griffin, (R-9th District); EJord F. Cederberg, (R-10th District); William D. Ford, (D-15th District); William S. Broomfield, (R-16th District); and Billie S. Parran, (D-16th District). Although U.S. Senator Phillip Hart was unable to attend, a top aid brought his regrets and visited with the group.

Both House Minority Leader Gerald Ford, and Congressman Chamberlain who serves on the Armed Forces committee, excused themselves from a White House invitation to be free to meet with their Michigan constituents.

They led the tour group onto the floor of the House of Representatives prior to the 12:00 noon opening of Congress, a place usually occupied by members of Congress, as the farmers sat in seats usually occupied by members of Congress, they were briefed on current issues before the lawmaking body.

Inflation and the national debt were two prime issues raised by the Congressmen. The debt of $332 billion, with an annual interest rate of 13 billion dollars, was mentioned by several, with the suggestion that Administration requests for tax increases and price-wage controls were being used as a "cover up" for programs of increased spending.

Later, many of the group took part in a formal tour of the Capitol building, and through passes provided by the Congressmen.

The multi-million dollar Rayburn building was another attraction for the group which learned that it has already cost $200 million, containing as it does multiple flights of escalators and a complete electric trolley system between it and the Capitol proper.

Later, they toured the Smithsonian Institute, visited the Bureau of Printing and Engraving where they saw postage stamps, government bonds and billions of dollars in cash printed, trimmed and processed into bundles; solemnly they watched the changing of the guard at the tomb of the Unknown Soldiers, visited the graves in Arlington National Cemetery, and climaxed their trip by a tour of George Washington's home and tomb at Mt. Vernon.

The prime purpose of the three-day air tour has been summed up by Mrs. Helen Atwood, Coordinator of Farm Bureau Women's Work, and the person who did much of the detail work which made the trip successful.

"This tour is a very effective way for Farm Bureau leaders who have a responsibility for understanding and discussing Farm Bureau policy, to do so, personally, with their Congressmen."

"In most instances the Congressmen were eager to sit around and talk with our Farm Bureau people about issues of importance to us. The Women of Farm Bureau are to be congratulated on their promotion of such a worthwhile project. All should find it easier and more interesting now to become active in local legislative affairs."
Big Attendance for Blue-Cross

COUNTY FARM BUREAU SECRETARIES listen intently to Blue Cross officials explain the latest information on Medicare, an area of vital interest to F.B. members. The secretaries were guests of Blue Cross-Blue Shield at their Detroit offices.

TOP MANAGEMENT PARTICIPATES

Fifty-eight county secretaries, representing over 95 per cent of the Michigan Farm Bureau membership, were guests of Blue Cross-Blue Shield at their Detroit offices, February 22-23. They came to get the very latest information on Medicare, to discuss plans for the forthcoming enrollment period, March 1-15, and to gain first-hand knowledge of the internal operation of how Blue Cross serves its three million subscribers.

During the morning session of the seminar, secretaries were welcomed by Wm. McNary, president of Blue Cross; Clarence Prentice, secretary-manager of Michigan Farm Bureau, and the newly-appointed executive secretary of Blue Shield, John McCabe.

Dan Reed and Robert Smith, staff members of the Public Affairs Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, appeared on the program to discuss their roles and responsibilities as members of the Blue Shield and Blue Cross boards respectively.

B. J. McCarthy, general manager of Blue Cross, discussed the Blue Cross proposed complementary coverage to Medicare during the evening session. He pointed out that Medicare is one of the most significant social developments in United States history because it will affect some twenty million people, nation-wide, within one year's time.

J. E. Shadduck, manager of Direct Billed Groups, Blue Cross, acted as general chairman of the meeting.

FIVE WAYS BETTER

1. High Octane
   Fast starts, quick warm-ups in all kinds of weather.

2. More Power
   For rugged farm conditions.

3. More Economy
   More mileage on less gallons.

4. Contains
   Anti-icer.
   Anti-rust.
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5. Weather Blended
   For year around performance.
Jaycee Awards Given

Michigan's winner is sure to put up a stiff fight for one of the top spots in the exciting search for the nation's most outstanding young farmers to be named April 3.5. Sponsored nationwide by local and state Chapters of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the awards program is scheduled for Birmingham, Alabama, when the nation's Four Outstanding Young Farmers for the year will be selected.

Representing Michigan is Calvin Lutz, Kalkaska, whose impressive accomplishments carried him through the state competition with distinction. To qualify, he had first to win a local Chapter competition, be no more than 35 years of age (he is 32), be an actual farm operator, and finally, win his state contest.

State judging criteria included 50 points for those activities which fell into the broad term of "progress in agricultural career" for off-farm work concerning the conserving practices and "contributions to the well-being of the community, state and nation." Perhaps most impressive of Lutz's qualifications center about his enthusiastic diversity. He is a fruit and nursery farmer whose stock-in-trade includes an unlikely mixture of such crops as Christmas trees, asparagus crowns (root stock), cucumbers, seed potatoes, cherries, strawberries (either fruit or plants), apples and fruit trees, and dairy livestock.

"I'll sell you a million strawberry plants," he offers with a broad grin, but it is obvious that he could deliver the plants in excellent condition and on short notice if he had to do so.

Last year he designed and constructed an 8x12 foot packing shed specifically designed and built exclusively for strawberry plants, and with this new facility is now the only local farmer to have fall-dug strawberry plants available.

To Christmas tree family, he notes a crowning toward the two and three tree family. "Economy in planting evergreen stock in the ground immediately after Christmas is a factor that few have considered, yet nowadays most people have two or three," he said. They have one for the formal part of the home, one in the family room, and this is one that the whole family can enjoy, he explained. Then, in many cases, there is still another tree in the recreation room. "Naturally a Christmas tree farmer (40 acres of Scotch Pines), he is happy to help the trend along.

In their personal call on Calvin and his wife, Lorraine, and their four children — ages two through 13 — the judges were impressed by the obvious family unity, which is the key factor in "quality of family life" and the extra care and attention given to sharp account keeping methods.

They noted that the daily newspaper most read was the Wall Street Journal, a favorite of trend-watching businessmen everywhere. They were pleased by the monthly profit-loss statements, and the method by which the farm enterprises were shaped up on a most profitable basis, with the individual crop profit-loss records, carried forward and accumulated to give a running account of the business health of each part of the farm operation.

As impressive as his farming operation is a dozen community activities brought a high score in the "community contributions" judging category, among them membership in a number of fruit and vegetable produce associations or cooperatives, and at one time, service on the Fruit and Vegetable Advisory Committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Calvin has been a Farm Bureau member for 12 years, and serves on the county Legislation Committee.

A combination irrigation and wild-life pond has added much to the Sabadin farm. Stocked with bluegills and bass, the pond is a favored watering place for many deer, smaller wild animals and ducks.

The Sabadins have one child.

TOP DAIRYMAN

According to official Dairy Herd Improvement records, third runner-up, Bruce Walkington (35) has the best dairy herd in Ionia County and has received an award for unusually high production.

Beginning with only four cows in 1957, he has increased the herd to its present 38, and "production per unit" from 12,000 to 16,905. Hogs, formerly a substantial part of the Walkington operation, have been dropped in favor of more attention given to the Holstein herd.

The Walkington family have been members of the Ionia County Farm Bureau for the past four years and he, as no more than 35 years of age, for the past four years and Bruce has served as president of his Community Group. He won the State Farmer degree as a member of the Future Farmers of America while in High School.

Members of the Sebewa Methodist Church, Mr. and Mrs. Walkington (Vivian) are the parents of four children.

BRUCE WALKINGTON — third runner-up in the Outstanding Young Farmer competition, has the best dairy herd in Ionia County, according to DHIA records. He has increased his herd "production per unit" from 12,000 pounds to 16,905 since 1957.

DONALD SABA, First runner-up in the contest, has the second largest dairy herd in Michigan, with 168 grades and Holsteins. The Saba family have five children, all involved in the farm operation.

Another outstanding Young Farmer contestant included: Robert Anderson, Ithaca; Michael Barton, Jackson (Horton); James Baxter, Alna (St. Louis); Theodore Vogt, Grand Haven (Hudsonville); Daniel Croy, Grand Ledge; Clifton Compton, Saginaw (Fremont); and Robert Finney, Mt. Pleasant (Weldall).

CHARLES TRINKLE, Dexter, tied for the number two spot in the OYF contest. He has been a member of the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau for 11 years. The Trinkle's farming operation consists of dairy cattle, grain, beef steers, sheep and hogs.

ELEVEN
OTTIM COUNTY FARM BUREAU president, Albert Potgeter, Allendale, recently won recognition for highest production record with a large herd. His 37 grade Holstein herd averaged 18,648 pounds of milk with 3.8 per cent butterfat test. Shown with Albert (right) are his father, Gerrit, and daughter, Heidi.

FARM BUREAU YOUNG PEOPLE'S training school in Wichita, Kansas, was attended by 120 young farmers from 25 states. Included were Michigan Farm Bureau Young People state committeemen, Ray Launstein, Jim Call and Ray Kucharek. Shown with the group are J. Delbert Wells (left), Family Program Department, and James Sparks (right), Cassopolis, AFBF Young People's Committee member. The conference featured discussions on issues of importance to young farmers.

MICHIGAN MILK PRODUCERS ASSN. has named Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Fuerstenau, Richmond, as the state's "Outstanding Young Dairy Couple" for 1966. They will represent MMPA in a number of capacities, including the National Milk Producers Federation. The Fuerstenaus are members of the Macomb Farm Bureau.

MAYNARD BROWNLEE—Manager of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., has resigned after 28 years with the statewide farm supply cooperative. He has been in the top management position for eight years, after serving as manager of several Farm Bureau Services retail outlets, director of distribution, and in other similar capacities.

IN WASHINGTON

AGREEMENT FOR PURCHASE OF LAND for the new Kent County Farm Bureau offices is signed by president Gerald Wolick. Watching are Farmers Petroleum manager Jack McFadden (dressed—see story page 6), attorney Bill Wilkinson (standing), and members of the Kent board. The new building is expected to be completed this summer.

MARKETING SPECIALISTS—Larry Ewing (left) and Royal Call, Market Development Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, attended a recent commodity workers' conference in Chicago. Purpose of the meeting, sponsored by the American Farm Bureau, was to coordinate state activities and gain useful ideas.

ROGER FLEMING—Secretary of the American Farm Bureau Federation, is paid a surprise visit in his Washington office by Michigan's Most Outstanding Young Farmer, Calvin Lue, and his wife, Ann. In the foreground is Mrs. Win. Scramlin, who headed a touring group of 57 farmers to the nation's Capitol.
LeRoy Brady, Jr. LeRoy Brady, Jr., former president of the Cheboygan County Farm Bureau, has been employed as a regional representative for the Michigan Farm Bureau. Brady assumes his responsibilities in the Northeast Region on April 1. The Northeast Region includes the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Emmet, Incon, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Otsego and Presque Isle. Former Northeast regional representative, Ray Askins, will move to the Big Rapids area to assume responsibility for the West Central region.

25th ANNIVERSARY Members of the Livingston County's Kiwanis Farm Bureau Group "eavesdropped" on a party-line conversation of 20 years ago at their recent 20th anniversary celebration. From that conversation between group members Mary Eisele and Alice Miller with the party-line, sparked almost-forgotten "Zoning," still a pertinent subject.

LeRoy Brady, Jr. is a member of the Northern Michigan Beef Breeders Association, the Anway Chamber of Commerce, and is chairman of the "Open Hereford Book Committee." During High School, Brady was active in his local FFA Chapter and in 1953 won the DeKalb award for vocational agriculture programs. "We are pleased to have Mr. Brady on our field staff," said Glenn Sammerfield, manager of the Field Services Division. "His experience as an active Farm Bureau member will be valuable in his work as a regional representative."

200 acre farm near Onaway, specialized in beef cattle. Prior to

Tom Gill and Richard Talbott recently joined the Sales Division of the Farm Bureau Insurance Company, according to N. L. Vermillion, Administrative Vice President.

Dairymen--Use Perfect Balancer 8% phosphorus mineral mix. Mix one pound of Perfect Balancer to every 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.

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"Integration" in agriculture has taken place to meet changes in the marketing system. Certain operations, such as processing, production, distribution and marketing are tied together, or "integrated.

Where different levels of the operation are tied together under one management system, the integration is known as "vertical.

If you tie production and processing together or tie processing and retailing under one system, it is vertical integration. Or you could tie all the levels together.

A well-known example of this today is the case where feed firms market their feed through livestock, poultry or eggs. They obtain contracts to supply the supermarket chains with large volumes of the product. They fill the orders by obtaining contracts with farm producers who use their feed, and often their supervision, to assure high efficiency in production at the lowest-cost per unit.

Processing companies may take similar action since it enables them to stipulate delivery and specify for raw products and keeps their plants operating at an efficient level, above the "break-even" point. It also helps them keep control of a share of the market for their output.

Producers refer to integration as "horizontal" when there is a pooling of operations at the same level. If farmers pool their production through a cooperative association so as to improve pricing, it is "horizontal" in direction.

Others form processors may combine factories or buy up more plants to increase volume. It would be horizontal within the processing level.

Dr. E. P. Roy calls it "horizontal" when a single firm takes over everything from the producing (farming) end to the retailing of the goods. To others, that would be a "take over" of the farm operation. Farmers probably will have to "make over" the market or expect special powers in the market. It could not "make over" the market or expect special consideration just because it is a cooperative. It would have to meet competition with equal or better marketing services. But the co-op would do for farmers what private firms do not do. The earnings would belong to the participating members.

Some growers are integrating the sales of their products through large Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association. New farmer groups are joining the program this year.

Farm Bureau Services offers a "participating contract" for egg producers who desire this kind of help. Producers get premium prices for their eggs and are paid on strict delivery schedules at volume discounts. Purchasers are made only from cooperative sources which can supply such volume under specifications.

The retail chains cannot afford the time and money involved to manage such big operations. They must have small suppliers, including scattered, individual farmers, except for rare items like "mushroom brand"

Different kinds of "integrating contracts" are offered to farmers. Larger farmers, with considerable business resources, may be offered a "limited contract." In this case, the farmer finances his own program, takes the risks, manages the production and sells his own quantity and quality of the product at a price agreed upon in advance. He can plan his output, often saving on expense.

A "full-management contract" does more to "take over" the farm operation. Farmers who lack capital for expansion often take such contracts. The firm supplies the capital and mostly "runs the show." It is part of the choice the farmer makes when he signs such a contract.

Depending on the contract — the farmer may provide the land and buildings, the electric power and his own labor. The company may provide everything else, including full supervision.

Sometimes the farmer is paid a set price per unit marketed. Other contracts pay him on a profit-sharing basis, or perhaps, on the basis of good feed-conversion ratios. In our modern farming world, the question is not whether there will be more integrating. Rather, it is WHO will do the integrating. Farmers can do it themselves through their cooperatives. Almost 100% of the citrus fruits are produced and marketed through integrated cooperatives.

And cooperative integration often calls for a new kind of relationship between the farmer and his cooperatives. What is a "full-management" contract, a considerable degree of management by the co-op would be necessary.

The integrated cooperative would have no special powers in the market. It could not "make over" the market or expect special consideration just because it is a cooperative. It would have to meet competition with equal or better marketing services. But the co-op would do for farmers what private firms do not do. The earnings would belong to the participating members.

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I'VE SEEN THE RESULTS YEAR AFTER YEAR!

Robert E. Osterle
Dietz Rd., Williamston

"I know Farm Bureau's Corn Starter Fertilizer helps me get an earlier crop and more hard corn at the end of the season. I know, by using Corn Starter Fertilizer, I can grow a longer season corn and still have it get ripe. My corn last year did not mold in the husks like much of the corn in this area. I have used Corn Starter since it was available and I have seen the results year after year."

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Regardless of what crop you are interested in, your nearby Farm Bureau fertilizer dealer has the materials you need to get the profit per acre you want. Stop by and see him at your earliest opportunity. He has dedicated his business life to be of service to you and your neighbors. He is just as aware as you are of what can and should be done to assure your crops falling into the profit side of the ledger. Give him the opportunity to be of service.

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Farm Bureau Services is a major component of the Michigan Farm Bureau.
The Farm Bureau Mutual Family Automobile Policy is for Members only. It's an insurance contract which has been specifically designed to meet the needs of Michigan farm families. It protects you and your family – your car(s) – and your legal liability. (There's another special policy to insure your farm trucks.)

As a Farm Bureau Member, you can have the very best protection – at the lowest possible cost. For example, you get a 10% discount when you insure two or more cars with Farm Bureau Mutual.

If you don't have all your cars and trucks insured with Farm Bureau now, why not call your local Agent? Ask for a comparison of coverages, cost, and service.

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Pine River, Ph. 657-3390
Reed City, Ph. 832-9180
Saginaw, Ph. 750-4405
St. Johns, Ph. 224-3253
Sandusky, Ph. 648-2800
Scottville, Ph. 757-3151
Traverse City, Ph. 947-9452
Washington, Ph. 781-4241
West Branch, Ph. 89