



IMPORTANT TAX BILL — one of several vital to Michigan farmers, is signed into law by Governor Romney. Exempted from taxation are fruit and Christmas trees, shrubs, bushes and vines. Also prevented is taxation of other farm crops.

WITNESSING THE SIGNING are (from left) Rep. Charles Raap (D), Wilbur Paul, blueberry grower, Senator Vanderploeg (D), introducer of the bill, all of Muskegon; Elton Smith, President, Michigan Farm Bureau and Robert Smith, Legislative Counsel.

FARMERS GAIN SUBSTANTIAL TAX RELIEF

Governor Signs Two Major Tax Measures

Few things are simple anymore.

In today's complicated world, it often happens that a scratch of a pen in Lansing or Washington has more effect on a farmer's income than anything he can do on his farm.

July 11 and 12 were two big days in the economic life of every Michigan farmer. On the morning of July 11, Governor Romney signed into law Senate Bill 710 (introduced by Senator Johnson, D-Marshall), thereby eliminating taxes on all farm personal property. On the afternoon of July 12, Romney signed Senate Bill 352 (introduced by Senator Vanderploeg, D-Muskegon), exempting fruit and Christmas trees, shrubs, plants and vines from assessment.

From now on, Michigan farmers will save millions of dollars of taxes every year, and some long-delayed equity has been brought into the Michigan tax structure.

S. 710 not only eliminates the personal tax on machinery and livestock, which were traditionally assessed, but also on silage, hay in the barn, grain in the bin, corn in the crib and ground feed, which were taxable, but in most cases were not taxed.

By the same token, S. 352 affects all farmers because it not only stops the practices existing in some counties, it also prevents the assessment of wheat, winter barley, rye, hay (alfalfa, clover, etc.) or any other crop in the ground on the assessment date. This is provided that this gain can be maintained year after year.

These tax gains, such as the agricultural exemption on sales tax, and the tax exemption on gasoline for non-highway use, will no doubt be challenged year in and year out, and farmers, through Farm Bureau, will have to continually justify them.

The effort to gain equity on

the effect of the property tax on farmers through S. 710 and S. 352 is a striking parallel to the sales tax exemption fight. The sales tax exemption on farm production supplies resulted from a fight led by Farm Bureau more than 30 years ago. That fight was carried in both the courts and the Legislature.

The court case went to the Supreme Court and was won. The Legislature then changed the statute. The issue at the time was whether agriculture should be treated the same as industry.

Industry had been exempted from the sales tax on equipment and material used in manufacturing goods and Farm Bureau maintained that farmers should be similarly exempted on equipment and supplies used in the production of food. (Unfortunately, many people, including some Legislators, believe that the sales tax exemption includes everything a

farmer buys, which is, of course, absolutely untrue.)

Today, 1966, the elimination of the farm personal property tax is somewhat parallel. The arguments, now like then, include the matter of equity in relation to the total property tax burden. They also included the fact that industry had been granted some personal property tax relief through the removal of the tax on "tools, dies, jigs, etc." and tax relief on equipment used to prevent water and air pollution.

Another parallel exists in the passage of S. 352, exempting trees, bushes, etc. The unreasonable assessment practices developing in some counties could have led to a long and costly fight in the courts. In fact, one Legislator who opposed the bill admitted that the practices were unjust, but claimed that farmers should take it to the courts. Fortunately, many Legislators recognized it for what it was — a legislative problem.

Editorial

THE HARD-SELL ON SOFT WHEAT

Michigan wheat farmers prepare for harvest even as the last of the old crop moves into market channels. As they do so, they can note with satisfaction the recent direct sale of a cargo of soft wheat out of Michigan to a milling firm in England.

Most important, this was a farmer-to-importer arrangement at a time when our federal government has become a dominating factor in the international market through manipulation of such things as export subsidies and "authorizations" of Public Law 480 sales.

Although the sale of one cargo of wheat may be a relatively minor factor of itself, officials of the Michigan Elevator Exchange which made the sale are justified in feeling that it has a significance beyond size in representing closer international marketing ties.

Further, it was soft wheat — a Michigan specialty and an important crop in our state, with last year's 30,000,000 bushels worth about \$50,000,000 in farm income.

Soft wheat is primarily used in crackers, cookies and pastries, as opposed to the hard varieties, used mostly for bread-flour and macaroni products. But hard or soft, all wheat these days is produced and marketed under the watchful eye of the federal government.

And the federal government has much of the final say as to where and when it will be sold in international trade. Employed are a number of subtle, or direct-action controls.

For example, although many countries of the world have strong demand for Michigan soft wheat and may prefer it, they find soft wheat pegged at higher prices through government manipulation of export-subsidies.

The level of these subsidies is set on a daily basis by an export committee within the United States Department of Agriculture, and they vary with classes of wheat. *"The subsidy fluctuates almost as much as does the actual market and we watch it about as close,"* reports Ed Powell of the Michigan Elevator Exchange.

To complicate matters more, subsidy levels differ between ports on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. By changes in subsidy rates, certain classes of wheat may be placed at disadvantage with others.

—And soft wheat appears to take second place in the minds of government officials, for in mid-July, the difference between subsidies on soft and hard wheat on the west coast was 9¢ per bushel, in favor of hard wheat.

The injection of such complicated problems into the relatively simple world of the wheat farmer caused Farm Bureau delegates to express concern last fall for the future of Michigan's soft wheat, and markets for it.

The Delegates urged "further exploration and intensified efforts" to form a Soft Wheat Grower's organization through action by Farm Bureau.

At a recent meeting in Farm Bureau Center, Lansing, wheat producers showed enthusiastic support for the idea. Representatives of ten of Michigan's wheat-growing districts called for a three-fold program of action to provide a united voice for soft wheat producers of the state in seeking a more equitable system of export subsidies, better treatment of soft wheat within the Public Law 480 program and work with others in building improved markets.

"The organization should also provide information to growers, on markets, crop outlook, uses for wheat and similar matters," the wheat growers decided. (See page 15 for complete report.)

Standing as proof of what determined farmers can do when they set their minds to it, is the impressive record of Farm Bureau itself, and most recently, the sale of a cargo of soft wheat direct from Michigan farmers to a flour mill at Avonmouth, England . . .

M. W.



"Remember us?—We own that pasture where you picnic every year!"

sooner or later . . . IT HAD TO HAPPEN!

Although names and places shall remain anonymous—the folks of one Michigan community continue to chuckle about the way a farm family among them reacted after strangers misused a lovely shaded spot in their pasture for a picnic grounds.

Not that they ordinarily begrudge the use of the place, for these are friendly folks, well liked in their community and not given to grouching. Still the guests were uninvited, made no effort to consult the owners, treated the place as their own and left plentiful evidence of their picnic when they moved on.

Actually, that's what did it. For among the scattered wrappings, peelings and old papers, was the address of a family living in a not-too-distant city. Later, it was confirmed that the address matched the owner's name of the car license which the farmer had thoughtfully jotted down.

Not that they expected to enjoy what they were about to do, but our farm friends still were determined to do it. They prepared a picnic lunch, complete with multiple loose wrappings, things that peel easily and cans to be opened and scattered. They started off to town.

It was a fine Sunday, and they timed it about right for the noon-hour as they set up light-house-keeping on the offending family's lush lawn in one of the better neighborhoods. Down went the table-cloth, and out came the food, followed shortly by the unbelieving home-owners, who had first called police. It turns out they shouldn't have done this.

Meanwhile, the "picnic" continued to progress to the delight of a number of onlookers who had gathered to watch by the time the local constabulary responded to the call. A policeman who listened politely, appeared to think it was one of the funniest things that ever happened to liven an otherwise dull day.

He called the local newspaper which promptly sent a photo-reporter to cover the story, and then stood guard until the farm family was finished—leaving behind the wrappings, the peelings, the tin cans . . .

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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President's Column POWER PUSH

Since 1961, the heavy shadow of Willard Cochrane has outlined the aims of the Administration for total control of the food industry. Cochrane is a University of Minnesota economist. He was chosen as economic adviser by Orville Freeman who was a former governor of Minnesota.

As economic adviser to Orville, Cochrane was quick to propose total control over the total food needs of the nation. He would measure these needs in "Total Digestible Nutrients" and proposed to allocate a certain share of these "TDN's" to each farmer in production rights. Every farm product would be so regulated.

Now, in 1966, Cochrane's ideas are finding a footing. Two different hand-picked commissions, paid by the Administration, have been given the task of submitting recommendations for a grand plan to control the nation's food and fibre completely.

Why two commissions? One sometimes wonders. But it gives us the job of watching and analyzing what both will be shooting at.

One of these is the 30-man "National Commission on Food and Fibre." The makeup of this commission should interest farmers. Labor, industry and the colleges are well represented on it. Labor is assigned two representatives, and one of them chairs the commission.

No general farm organization was honored with a seat on this commission. I wonder what reaction labor would make to a commission on labor affairs that included no representative of labor unions! This commission does not report until July of 1967, but we could predict in advance what direction it will take.

The second selected group is the "National Commission on Food Marketing." It got in a hurry to draft its conclusions in which the shades of Willard Cochrane stand out sharply.

What farmers certainly do not need is total concentration of authority in the hands of government officials over everything that grows. Yet, this is what the National Commission on Food Marketing suggests to do. It would place the marketing of all farm products under the control of federal marketing boards who would administer nationwide marketing orders. These boards would have the power to regulate production, marketing and pricing practices for everything.

Let's make a point clear. The conclusions of this commission were politically-designed, "foregone conclusions." In the first place, they were arrived at by a hand-picked group who are paid by government checks.

That the "conclusions" were written in advance was revealed by the fact that the technical studies of marketing operations were incomplete and still going on when the commission released its recommendations. So the facts of the study could have no relation to the conclusions of the commission nor the goals of the government. The recommendations were obviously rubber-stamped by the commission.

Marketing orders as we have known them have been limited to local or regional areas and have not been used to control production directly. Producers and processors could accept or reject them. But these new marketing orders would sweep away all freedom of choice for farmers in an area. The orders would not be drafted to fit any locality or region, as they are at present.

When the conclusions of this commission were made public, I released a statement to the public press. I warned of the damage that can be done to our Michigan food industry. I warned consumers of the pinch that can come to their abundant food supply—which they now enjoy at reasonable cost. This is not merely an issue which regulates farmers.

America cannot afford a system which puts tight regulations on farms and food production in a world which suffers a growing need for food and fibre. In the face of this, it is tragic to destroy the incentive that has led to the productive American industry of agriculture.

We must help the American public realize this fact.

E.S.

POLICY-RESOLUTION PROCESS BEGINS

COMMITTEE SELECTED WORK SCHEDULE SET

The group that many feel is Michigan's most important single farm committee, has been appointed and will swing into action within a few days. All of the 18 members of the Michigan Farm Bureau Resolutions Committee have been appointed by President Elton Smith — all have accepted.

"It is with deep concern for problems of agriculture that I accept appointment to the Resolutions Committee. I will serve to the best of my ability and plan to be at the opening session, August 9."

This reply to President Smith by Mrs. Andrew Jackson, one of the three persons to represent Farm Bureau Women on the committee, is typical of the attitudes expressed toward the important task.

Serving with Mrs. Jackson, who comes from Livingston county, will be Mrs. LaVerne Kramer, Hillsdale; and Mrs. William Lockhart of Chippewa county in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Louis Hayward of South Boardman, Kalkaska county, has accepted the demanding post as Committee Chairman.

Between the time he first gavels the group into action August 9, and the final, formal sessions of the Committee during the Mich-

igan Farm Bureau annual meeting in mid-November, the group will have become involved in thousands of miles of travel, and hundred of thousands of words, in putting together a comprehensive policy platform and program of work for Michigan's largest farm organization.

Accepting a position on Farm Bureau's Resolutions Committee is not to be done lightly, for committee work is not something that can be done in "spare" time.

Rather—a comparison with jury duty is much more appropriate, for the group is often "locked up" in formal sessions, hears "witnesses" testify, and listen to experts and spokesmen for other organizations.



Louis Hayward

Although opinions and arguments are heard, a major task of the Committee and its sub-groups is to make sure that Farm Bureau resolutions are based on fact, not opinion or prejudice.

All this action is spread over a three-month period, with the tentative calendar shaping up somewhat in this fashion: August 9 — organizational meeting, August 23 — policy development conferences.

October 4 — hearings and presentation of background material. October 21 — "target date" for all County resolutions to be in at Farm Bureau Center, Lansing.

November 2-3-4 — work compiling, comparing and compromising county resolutions into "tentative" booklet.

November 9-10-11 — formal sessions of the Resolutions Committee, held in conjunction with the 47th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, East Lansing.

The August 23rd meeting will be historic, in bringing together for the first time County Farm Bureau Presidents and chairmen of both County Resolutions and Women's committees.

At that time, Jack Lynn, Legislative Director of the American Farm Bureau Federation's Washington office, will speak to the group in a meeting scheduled for the YWCA in Lansing.

Tied to this renewed emphasis on county policy development will be a statewide series of regional meetings of county resolutions committees.

"Probable Issues" will be the theme of the series, with members of the Public Affairs Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau presenting background material for local policy development.

Last year more than 1,000 county Farm Bureau policy recommendations were adopted locally

and forwarded to the state Resolutions Committee for review.

Later, they were combined into a composite book with the weight and appearance of a mail-order catalog.

It is this booklet of proposals which will become the center of attention at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting, and out of it will come another action-packed policy program for the new year.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

District 1, Adolph Dongvillo, Jr.; District 2, Nicholas Smith; District 3, Arthur Rowley; District 4, Russell Sill.

District 5, Ralph Letson; District 6, Alfred Goodall; District 7, Laurence Robison; District 8, Harmon Williams.


District 9, Louis Hayward, Committee Chairman; District 10, Edwin Estelle; District 11, Charles Donaldson, Jr.; Farm Bureau Young People, to be announced.

Farm Bureau Women, Mrs. Andrew Jackson, Mrs. LaVerne Kramer, Mrs. William Lockhart.

Members at Large, representing Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors: Dean Pridgeon, Eugene Roberts and Robert Zeeb.


Farm Bureau policies are the result of the combined thinking and action of thousands of farm people.

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS START HERE




TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS
AFTER TALKING OVER ISSUES IN THEIR COMMUNITY...

COUNTY RESOLUTIONS BECOME




COUNTY RECOMMENDATIONS
AND
POLICIES FOR DEALING WITH
COUNTY ISSUES

STATE RESOLUTIONS BECOME



STATE RECOMMENDATIONS
AND
POLICIES FOR DEALING WITH
STATE ISSUES

"AMERICAN" RESOLUTIONS ARE



THE POLICIES OF FARM BUREAUS EVERYWHERE
FOR DEALING WITH
NATIONAL ISSUES

... TO HELP BUILD PROGRAMS FOR EARNING HIGH NET INCOME

- with greater freedom
- in sound dollars
- at peace

FOR BETTER RURAL LIVING!

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

The months ahead are busy ones for Farm Bureau members, beginning with August "Midsummer Meetings" of county Farm Bureau executive committees and membership chairmen.

Scheduled by districts, the meetings are aimed at informing county leadership on the expanded program and reviewing the past year's activities. Also, counties will be submitting their "bids" for state membership goal.

According to Charles Burkett, Field Operations Department, the meetings will be "the foundation stone for a successful 1967 membership campaign."

October is the month for county Farm Bureau annual meetings and Farm Bureau Women's district fall meetings, followed by the Michigan Farm Bureau convention November 9-10-11, Michigan State University campus, East Lansing.

Exciting Las Vegas is the site of this year's American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting, December 4-8. Farm Bureau members will have an opportunity to participate in a "Convention Tour" to Las Vegas by way of sunny California.

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 9	1966 Resolutions Committee — first meeting.
August 9	Dist. 9 Midsummer Meeting of Executive Committees and Membership Chairmen.
August 11	Dist. 4 Midsummer Meeting.
August 12	Dist. 5 Midsummer Meeting.
August 15	Dist. 3 Midsummer Meeting.
August 16	Dist. 1 Midsummer Meeting.
August 23	Statewide Policy Development Meeting — state and county Resolutions Committees, county presidents and women's committee chairmen.
August 24	Dist. 8 Midsummer Meeting.
August 25	Dist. 7 Midsummer Meeting.
August 26	Dist. 6 Midsummer Meeting.
August 30	Dist. 2 Midsummer Meeting.
Sept. 27-28	Dist. 6 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 4	Dist. 9 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 5	Dist. 7 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 6	Dist. 4 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 11	Dist. 2 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 12	Dist. 8 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 13	Dist. 3 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 17	Dist. 5 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
October 18	Dist. 10E Farm Bureau Women's Fall Mtg.
October 19	Dist. 10W Farm Bureau Women's Fall Mtg.
October 25	Dist. 1 Farm Bureau Women's Fall Meet.
Nov. 9-10-11	Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.
Dec. 4-8	American Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

OLDEST & YOUNGEST

Symbolizing a great past and a vigorous future, the oldest and youngest Michigan cooperative leaders are being sought by the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives.

Both will be honored as part of October "Co-op Month" ceremonies when Michigan, along with more than 20 other states, will pay tribute to the cooperative movement and to the people who have supported it.

"There can be no 'movement' without movers — people who make things go. Such people have built the kind of cooperatives in Michigan which serve people, and they have returned a great deal of money to farmers' pockets," according to LA Cheney, Secretary-Manager of the Co-op Association.

"By seeking out and honoring the oldest known living 'cooperator' from within our membership, the person who has continuously used and supported cooperatives over the greatest number of years, we will be saluting a great past," Cheney said. "But to stop there would be foolish for the past is only a door into tomorrow, and what lies beyond that door must be explored by new members, such as the youngest cooperative leader which we also seek."

The youngest cooperative leader must be a youthful person elected to a Michigan cooperative board, and presently serving.

Persons selected will be invited to attend the signing of Cooperative Month proclamation by Governor Romney, and to participate in a number of other promotional events.



capitol report

Session Reaches Tense Climax Legislature is now "recessed"

What was the score?

That's a question people always ask about a ball game.

Just how well did farmers "score" in the session of the legislature recently concluded? According to two well-known Farm Bureau "team members," Legislative Counsels Dan Reed and Robert Smith, "this has been another highly successful year for Michigan farmers. Many key members of both parties recognized the special needs of agriculture and went to bat for farmers."

Top of the list was passage of two major tax bills, reported in depth elsewhere, but which mean a giant step toward correcting a major flaw in the state's tax structure. One bill completely eliminates taxes on farm personal property, the other exempts fruit and Christmas trees, shrubs, plants, etc., from taxation. Both will mean millions upon millions in tax savings for farmers.

The "box score" (statistics) of the last session is impressive when compared to the record of the previous "72nd Session."

Nearly 3300 bills were introduced in the most current session as compared to about 2710 in the one prior. In addition to the thousands of bills there were several hundred resolutions. The recent legislature passed 789 bills compared to about 550 for the session before it.

It should be remembered that each official "session" is two legislative years, that there are two sessions to each "Legislature."

Accordingly, farmers must examine the legislative record of the past two years to truly evaluate the full (most recent) 73rd Session.

They must keep in mind that the 1966 lawmaking period just concluded was technically the "second session of the 73rd legislature," and one major difference this year was that for the first time under the new Constitution, bills introduced in the first year of a two-year session automatically remained "alive" and open for action in the second year.

Bills not acted upon at the end of the second session of the same Legislature are dead. This occurred this year. However, next year's 74th Legislature begins with a clean slate and first-session bills will have a two-year life.

This means that farmers can have two chances at passage of legislation important to them. At the same time, bills contrary to farmer-interests remain alive, and farmer vigilance must be doubled.

"It is a mixed blessing, in that this new method of operation becomes a two-edged sword," according to Robert Smith, who contends that in spite of such things, farmers did very well in many important areas.

While agreeing, legislative teammate Dan Reed explained that measuring how well farmers have done is "a relative thing."

"For instance, although we did receive an important measure of tax relief in the passage of the two major tax bills, farmers still support total tax reform leading to a balanced tax structure.

"How do you measure the importance to farmers of an all-out effort to amend or delay the expensive, complicated Workmen's Compensation Act—which had farmers backed into a corner?" Reed asked.

"Again, certain legislators from both political parties went to bat for farmers to give them essential amendments and a full-year's delay during which to work out further improvements in the Act," Reed said.

Both men pointed out a similar situation which existed within the Minimum Wage Act, passed in 1964. Here again was a law unrealistic in its application to such things as harvesting piece-work as traditionally used in several Michigan crops.

In 1965 and again this year, the legislature provided a year's delay in the law, as it applied to farmers. This additional time will permit a manpower study to be made which should provide a realistic yardstick for tallying piece-work payments.

According to the Legislative Counsels, Farm Bureau rallied support for both these vital time extensions, and actually wrote the amendments later incorporated into these two crucial farm-labor bills.

A bill written by Farm Bureau—and now passed into law, was an Act to prevent "pirating" of Michigan farm labor by out-of-state labor recruiters.

Known as the "Emigrant Agent's Act," the bill will help clear up a serious situation as farm labor grows more scarce in Michigan fruit and vegetable fields.

In other action, farmers gained: a special appropriation for research into new cherry varieties, in cherry harvesting and disease control; another special appropriation for research into new vegetable varieties in an effort to retain Michigan's importance as a vegetable-producing state; money for the control of bird pests, and amendments to present agricultural laws to improve and update them in view of modern farming conditions.

"We hear a lot about consumer protection, not realizing that farmers are major consumers, too, and need protection through regulation of the sale of liming materials, feeds, fertilizers and seeds," according to Smith.

Both Smith and Reed reflected concern that gains made in this legislature, along with all previous gains—must be maintained and protected in future sessions, "at a time when fewer people fully understand the importance to them of a sound agriculture . . ."

The Public Affairs Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau is compiling a complete summary of legislative actions taken in the past session which are of importance to all farmers.

AG-COMMISSION MUDDLE

The effectiveness of the important five-member Agriculture Commission, which heads the Michigan Department of Agriculture, has been hampered by uncertainties and political maneuvering.

Required by law to be a bipartisan commission, Governor Romney has appointed, and the Senate has confirmed, four members—two Democrats, Walter P. Lange, Sebawaing, and Richard K. Stout, Marshall, and two Republicans, Mrs. Seth Tompkins, Traverse City, and Charles Donaldson, Jr., Daggett. The fifth appointee, long-time member of the Commission and Chairman, Blaque Knirk, Quincy, was appointed by the Governor.

Michigan's Constitution provides that unless an appointee is rejected within 60 session days, the appointment is confirmed. On what was considered by many to be the 60th day, Knirk drew bipartisan support and was not rejected. The succeeding day, however, Senate Democrats mustered the necessary votes for rejection.

The Senate asked the Supreme Court for an interpretation of the meaning of the phrase "60 session days," the question being whether or not the day of the appointment constituted the first of the 60 days, or whether the succeeding day was the first. The Supreme Court rejected the request of the Senate. Governor Romney has requested an opinion of the Attorney General, which is still not forthcoming.

At a recent meeting of the Commission, Knirk served and chaired the meeting.

Farmers can sincerely hope that the political maneuverings can be brought to an end and that the work of the Commission and of the Department can continue without such distractions.



EMIGRANT AGENT BILL—which will help prevent the pirating of Michigan farm labor by out-of-state recruiters, is signed into law by Governor Romney. Present at the signing were (from left): Rep. Sanford Charron (D-Pinconning), introducer of the bill; Robert Smith, MFB Legislative Counsel; Carl Hanson, Bay County Extension Director, and Al Lisius, Glaser-Crandell Pickle Company.

It sounds good . . .

Pressure is building up in high political circles, as well as among church leaders, to take off all restraints on food production in our country, and to use the resulting surpluses in an enormous program of supplying food to hungry people throughout the world. It sounds good. It has great humanitarian appeal. But those who advocate it surely have not thought it through.

In the first place, who would pay the farmers for their efforts? If this load should be placed upon taxpayers already struggling under the greatest weight of indebtedness that any people have ever borne, it would probably make our economy altogether unviable.

If we expect the countries receiving the food to pay for it, we are deceiving ourselves. Most of the food we have already supplied has not been paid for, and to put these countries further in our debt would be to overburden their economies and would probably do more harm than good.

Furthermore, it is exceedingly dangerous to teach the people of any country, our own included, that free food is available. That of itself is destructive to the economy of any nation we set out to help. It takes the emphasis off of local production, and teaches people to hope that any temporary windfall that comes their way might be permanent. Millions of people in our own country have already been misled by that harmful and deceptive belief and practice.

More importantly, if we supply more free food, the populations of the countries helped will grow even faster than the available food supply. All the food we could send would not keep pace with the ever-increasing number of mouths to consume it.

The proposed action would be extremely cruel, as it would lead people everywhere to believe that some progress was being made toward solving the twin problems of insufficient food and mounting populations.

Two things are necessary to solve this problem. The first is an insistent and thorough campaign to teach the people of the world to limit the size of their families. The second is to learn once and for all, that socialism never has and never will produce food abundantly.

The Communist countries, all of which are now plagued by food shortages, could solve the problem in one year by abandoning socialized farming and returning the land to the peasants, with freedom to farm it as they wished. Their rulers know this, but are unwilling to do it because it would weaken their hold upon the people and their control over them.

Increasing hunger will finally demonstrate the failure of socialized farming and force the Communist bosses to grant more freedom to the people. If we send free food to these countries, it will lessen the pressure upon the Communist rulers, and will enable them to continue their oppression of the people.

The idea of free food for the world, conceived by good people with humanitarian motives, would make the difficult situation of the peasants worse. It is to be hoped that the American people will see these facts before it is too late, and stop this disastrous policy before any more damage is done.

If we try the program for a few years and cause the birth of an extra half billion people, these will eventually have to starve along with the others when the truth finally becomes evident that the proposal is impossible.

(From Christian Economics)

"Consumer Protection"

The 73rd Legislature is still technically in session.

It recessed on June 29 and will return for a day or two on August 22 for further consideration of some issues that were left in conference committees.

One of these issues, H. 3687, indirectly concerns farmers to an important degree. This Farm Bureau supported bill, as originally introduced in the House, was, as they say, an important, but non-controversial bill. It was a true "consumer protection" measure.

It would have replaced Michigan's presently antiquated general food law (passed in 1895 and patched from time to time since then) with a modern uniform food protection law presently in effect in 35 other states.

Unlike many bills, it was not hastily written, but instead was patterned after a uniform bill developed and recommended by the Association of Food and Drug Officials of the United States and the Council of State Governments.

Troubles for this needed legislation began when the House Judiciary Committee decided not to report some other so-called consumer protection measures such as a "fair packaging and labeling" bill.

The House then amended H. 3687 to make it cover much more than food, such as drugs, devices, cosmetics and any other commodity of any kind manufactured for consumption by individuals. Such a broadening of the bill, of course, eliminated any possibility of a food law for Michigan in uniformity with other states.

While the Michigan Department of Agriculture has always had the responsibility of administering the food and sanitation laws and weights and measure status, it does not want, and probably shouldn't have, jurisdiction over drugs, cosmetics, etc.

Another problem was a strong but unsuccessful fight by some health groups to amend H. 3687 to, in effect, turn over much of the Department of Agriculture's responsibility to the Health Department.

Farm Bureau opposed such an amendment because it would have been a backward step and could have resulted in returning to the old problem of costly and burdensome duplication of inspections for dairy farms, meat and other commodities.

The health groups tried to amend the food bill after failing to get H. 2552 out of committee, which could have eliminated the good accomplished last year by passage of the uniform dairy inspection bill and the statewide meat inspection bill. Farm Bureau opposed H. 2552 for this reason.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture removed many of the House Amendments, returning the bill to its original purpose of updating the Michigan food laws. The committee also refused to adopt the proposals of the health groups. However, one of those proposals was attached, in a hasty manner, during the floor debate, hence the deadlock. The House insists on its version and the Senate will not accept it.

The conference committees must resolve these differences. The fact is that passage of the new food law as originally written, together with the new Weights and Measures Law passed three or four years ago and some measures passed last year, will give the Michigan consumer continued protection second to none!

'Not Me—You're Going to Obedience School'



SENSE and NONSENSE

NEW DEAL

By Warren Dobson

Sing a song of working days,
Chores and tasks to do —
Tasks to test our fortitude
And test us for true blue.

Drink a toast to good hard work,
Burdens ours to lift,
Teach us values of our own —
Plus a sense of thrift.

Let us earn our daily bread,
Divorced from federal dole,
Grant more of self-reliance
In progress toward a goal.

Let us know the satisfaction
Of achievement on our own,
May self-help find new attraction
In a way we have not known.

Sing a song of new reform
When we may buck the trend
Of handing Washington our dough
To spend, and spend, and spend!

POOR GRANDPA . . .

Grandpa first took just a bit of whiskey — occasionally, for a tonic. He didn't really set out to become an alcoholic. No more than we Americans set out to become addicted to centralized government. We just let the politicians tamper with our Constitution, about as Grandpa let the whiskey work on his.

And he had a few good times while the boys were setting up the drinks. — And the habit grew. But after a while of living it up, Grandpa found out he was really paying for the bill.

Grandpa thought that most of the shots were being paid for by well-heeled members of the crowd, at least until he figured out that the boys had their hands in his pocket when he wasn't looking.

Other New Tax Laws:

The victory farmers enjoyed in passage of the two major farm tax bills which exempt trees and shrubs from taxation as well as eliminate taxes on farm personal property, tend to overshadow several important tax bills passed this year.

For example, House Bill 2664 (carried over from the 1965 session) gives counties a new source of revenue by taking transfers of property through a stamp affixed to the document, similar to the present federal tax on such documents.

The amount of the tax would be at the rate of "1.1 mill per dollar" of the consideration paid or \$1.10 per \$1,000. This rate is the same as the present federal rate. The effective date of the new statute is January 1, 1968, which is the date that the present federal tax is supposed to be repealed.

It is estimated that this tax totally, over the state, will amount to over \$4 million. All of the proceeds are to go to the county general fund.

Interestingly, passage of this bill reverses the usual trend for in this case, a federal tax will be

repealed and a local unit of government will be able to use it as an important new source of revenue realized to the counties from this tax statewide. It will more than offset the amount that has been collected through the farm personal property tax.

H. 3075 passed and provides tax exemption on equipment installed for the prevention of water pollution. This is similar to last year's tax exemption on similar equipment preventing air pollution.

Amendments were made to last year's property tax exemption for the elderly, including lowering the number of years from seven to five that the applicant must be a resident of the state.

Previous law required that he must be a resident seven consecutive years — the new law requires residency of five out of the last ten years. The definition of homestead was also expanded to one situated on leased land. This was to solve a particular problem in the upper peninsula, where the land is often owned by mining or other interests and the residents merely lease a piece of property for the homestead.

"P.E.P.-PILLS"

By Robert E. Smith
Legislative Counsel, Mich. Farm Bureau

What is PEP?

Spelled with small letters — pep means "brisk energy" — "initiative" — "animated activity".

But spelled with large letters P.E.P. means much more. It signifies a Political Education Program now underway within special Farm Bureau committees in counties throughout the state.

The prime purpose is to allow Farm Bureau members as individuals to become actively involved in determining the best possible candidates for elective offices in Congress, the state legislature and locally.

PEP activities center about recognition that if farmers are to continue to be effective where laws are made, they must become more effective where lawmakers are made.

Although farmers represent a relatively small minority of the population, (about 7 per cent in the U.S. and about 5 per cent in Michigan) political experts recognize the fact that they remain an effective political force. Farm officials sadly point out that the experts recognize this power more than do most farmers.

Some studies have shown that farmers, as a group, do not take the interest that they should in political affairs. If this is true, it is indeed unfortunate, because more than 30% of all the business in our country is governmental business — hence public business.

Ex-President Eisenhower expressed his concern over indifference to politics when he said, "Our American heritage is threatened as much by our indifference as it is by the most horrible foreign threat" and "Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen."

Political activity should be much more than just going to the polls and pulling a lever or making a single cross without particular regard to the individual being elected. Farmers, in particular, must be more discriminating and base their vote on factual information about the individual running for office, regardless of his party.

Farm Bureau PEP Committees throughout the state are gearing themselves to bring such information to the voters, based on their voting records, as recorded on the issues of greatest importance to Farm Bureau members. Many counties are planning "Measure the Candidate" meetings, others are planning a "Get Out The Vote" campaign and other activities. In some cases, farmers as individuals may support specific candidates.

Elton Smith, President of Michigan Farm Bureau, summed it up recently when he said:

"Again I stress that there were certain legislators who cared — who went to work for farmers. And they came from both sides of the political party fence! Some of them may have come from your legislative district. From a farmer's point of view, they deserve to be re-elected — regardless of party."

In addition, tenants and stockholders of cooperative housing corporations are eligible for the exemption if they meet other eligibility standards.

Passage of H. 3568 clears up a point of argument in the tax laws of many years standing, concerning whether the property owner is paying his taxes for the previous year or a year in advance.

The statute now states that the immediate succeeding calendar year after each December 31 shall be the tax year for the purpose of the general property tax regardless of any contrary provisions in any city or village charter. In addition, villages and other taxing units must collect taxes based on state equalized valuations.

Bean Commission

M. D. Brownlee, Secretary-Manager of the newly-created Michigan Bean Commission, reports that support by Michigan bean growers of the Commission activities for the 1966 crop year has been substantial.

House Bill 2119, passed by the 1965 Legislature, provided that growers not wishing to participate in Commission programs could file for exemption from the two cents per cwt. assessment pro-

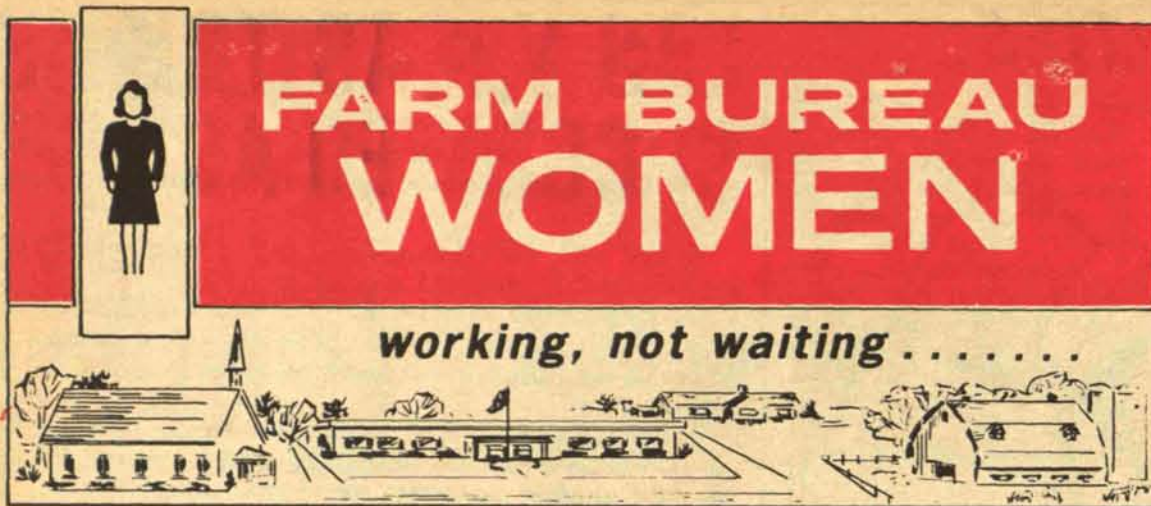
viding they did so before June 1. Michigan has nearly 13,000 bean growers and less than 10 per cent elected to file for exemption before the deadline.

"This kind of support would indicate that growers are dead serious about using the commission to improve their lot," Brownlee said.

Assuming normal crop yields, the two cents per cwt. assessment will provide over \$100,000 to be used by the Commission in improvement of the bean industry.

The nine-man Commission (comprised of six growers, two handlers and one canner), appointed by the Governor in January, met in Saginaw in early July to begin work evaluating various research and promotion programs which may be given financial support during the next year.

Numerous research and promotion areas are urgently in need of attention, commission members feel. Among those to be given serious consideration by the commission are: joint participation with the Department of Agriculture in an European Food Fair at Munich, Germany, in September 1966; assistance in work to develop a blight-resistant strain of Red Kidney beans; development of improved harvesting equipment to reduce losses at harvest time from checked skins and splitting.



FARM BUREAU WOMEN—have been delighted with passage of the Slow-Moving Vehicle emblem law. Shown pausing to admire one of the colorful emblems with Representative Harry Rohlfs (R-84th District) are, from the left: F. B. Women's Chairman, Mrs. Maurine Scramlin; Women's Safety Committee Chairman, Mrs. Lou DeMatio, and Rep. Rohlfs, a sponsor of the law.



MAJOR SAFETY BILL—requiring the use of the standard slow-moving vehicle emblem on all equipment traveling less than 25 M.P.H. is signed by Governor Romney. Those watching the signing were (left to right): Rep. Stanley Powell (R-Ionia), Rep. Claude Burton (D-Bellevue), Mrs. Eugene DeMatio, Farm Bureau Women's Safety Committee Chairman; Rep. Thomas Sharpe (R-Howell), Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, MFB Women's state chairman; Miss Helen Atwood, MFB Women's Activities Coordinator; Rep. Russell Strange (R-Mt. Pleasant), and Harry Rohlfs (R-Akron), introducer of the bill.

What is in the Law:

Michigan's new Slow Moving Vehicle law is specific in its description of both the equipment which must use the SMV emblem and the emblem itself. The law states:

"When operated on the highway, every vehicle which has a maximum potential speed of 25 miles an hour, implement of husbandry, farm tractor or special mobile equipment shall be identified with a reflective device as follows:

"An equilateral triangle in shape, at least 16 inches wide at the base and at least 14 inches in height; With a dark red border, at least 1 3/4 inches wide of highly reflective beaded material; a center triangle, at least 12 1/4 inches on each side of yellow-orange fluorescent material.

"The device shall be mounted on the rear of the vehicle, broad base down, not less than 3 feet nor more than 5 feet above the ground and as near the center of the vehicle as possible. The use of this reflective device is restricted to use on slow moving vehicle specific in this section, and use of such reflective device on any other type of vehicle or stationary object on the highway is prohibited . . ."

"SMV" EMBLEM NOW LAW

"The farmer is getting smarter today with respect to his responsibility on our modern high-speed highways," says Mrs. Eugene DeMatio, chairman of the Farm Bureau Women's state safety committee and recent runner-up in the "Mrs. Safety 1966" contest. "When the farmer becomes more considerate of drivers of cars as he rolls his slow-moving equipment in the traffic pattern, he also considers his own safety."

According to the National Safety Council, vehicles which travel at 20 miles per hour or less on our highways are 100 times more likely to be involved in an accident than those traveling 65 miles per hour.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women are promoting the expanded use of the large, triangular, fluorescent red "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblem. This emblem is readily transferrable from machine to machine and is visible for long distances either day or night. Their effort is a response to a resolution passed by the Michigan Farm Bureau delegates at last November's annual meeting urging all farmers and other operators of slow-moving vehicles to purchase and use the standard emblem.

The resolution declares that:

"Slow moving vehicles may create a safety hazard on streets and highways. Oftentimes an automobile driver does not realize the difference in speed of his vehicle and the slow-moving machine ahead of him. This error in judgment could be fatal.

"The National Safety Council has designed a slow-moving-vehicle emblem to aid in solving this problem. All drivers know that an octagonal sign means STOP. The shape has been standardized. So, also can this emblem come to have a warning value to the driver.

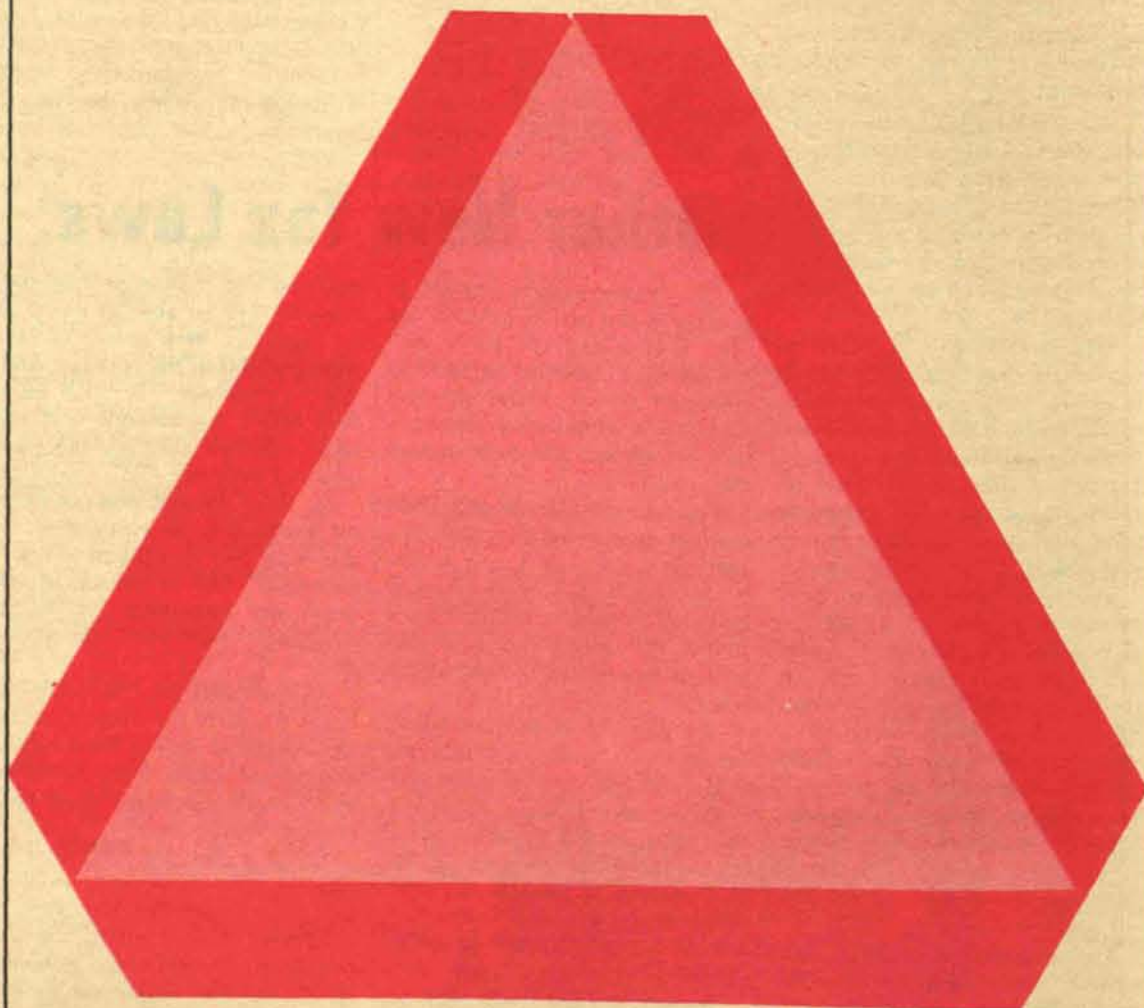
"We urge all farmers and other operators of slow-moving vehicles to purchase and use this standard emblem."

The slow-moving vehicle emblem and mounting equipment will be available through county Farm Bureau offices and the county Farm Bureau Women's Safety Chairmen throughout the state. Promotion of use and purchase of the emblems is planned for broadcast media and the public press.

According to Mrs. William Scramlin, state chairman of the Farm Bureau Women, "The best method of expanding the use of the emblem locally will be left to the ingenuity of the County Farm Bureau Women's Committee."

The bill requiring the use of the standard slow-moving vehicle emblem on all equipment traveling less than 25 M.P.H. was signed by Governor Romney in early July.

Some Day or Night—
This emblem may save your life



SLOW-MOVING VEHICLE EMBLEM

MIDSUMMER ACTIVITIES. . .

State Committee Meets in Lansing

It is obvious that the "midsummer slump" hasn't hit activities of Farm Bureau Women with action-programs underway in a wide range of project areas.

In their annual summer conference, members of the Farm Bureau Women's State Committee reviewed progress reports, made appointments to a number of important committees and confirmed the attendance of National Chairman, Mrs. Haven Smith, at their coming annual meeting.

The "Speaker's Bureau" — planned for last Spring and later cancelled when less than required numbers of participants enrolled, was discussed. A decision was made to re-schedule the training program, with time and place to be determined by the Understanding and Information subcommittee.

Eight delegates were elected to take part in the August Traffic Safety Conference, held at Michigan State University. Elected were: Mrs. Lou DeMatio, delegation chairman; Mrs. Nelson DeGroot, Mrs. Earl Hendricks, Mrs. Don Root, Mrs. Harland Welke, Maurine Scramlin, Ruth Hooper and Helen Atwood. Alternates chosen include Gladys Ross, Jeannette Babbitt, Vivian McLaughlin or Mrs. Sam Bercy.

In other action, Mary Edith Anderson was elected Vice Chairman of Michigan's Christian Rural Overseas Program and it was announced that Michigan Farm Bureau Women have been encouraged to continue their participation in the Share-a-Loaf project sponsored by C.R.O.P.

Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, told the women that projections for 1980 show only about half of present farm numbers in Michigan, and suggested that farmers must emphasize their work in economic and legislative fields.

Smith encouraged Farm Bureau Women to help "redesign" their annual Washington Legislative Tour, to shape it into a "prestige

project for Farm Bureau Legislative workers".

Later, the Committee followed his suggestion by moving to sponsor the tour for legislative workers, and suggested that they also explore the possibility of sponsoring an "American Heritage" side-tour at the same time, but with an altered itinerary to allow guided sightseeing of historically important spots.

Mary Edith Anderson was elected to the Scholarship Committee, which earlier reported plans for an honorary "Marge Karker" scholarship.

Present members of the "You and I" (U. & I.) committee were re-elected. They are Florence Southworth and Martha Baker (one year terms) and Doris Wieland and Ann Campau (two year terms).

Chairman Maurine Scramlin announced that Mrs. Virginia Smith, of the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee has confirmed her attendance at the annual meeting set for November 9. Mrs. Smith is remembered for her extraordinary enthusiasm and devotion to the farmer's cause, shown in previous visits to Michigan.

Looking far into the future, the women discussed the possibility of asking Ann Landers to be guest speaker headlining the program in 1968.

It was announced that prior to then, Mrs. Aropi Dutt of India, president of the Associated Country Women of the World (AC-WW) will visit the United States in 1967.

Michigan Farm Bureau women plan to entertain Mrs. Dutt at that time, and are already at work on details.

Two newly elected District Chairmen were present at the meeting for the first time. They were Mrs. Lauri (Eleanor) Honkala, Crystal Falls, representing District 11-West; and Mrs. Lewis (Jeannette) Babbitt, Eagle, representing District 5.

HOUSEWIVES' LAMENT. . .

—Betty L. Smith
Ionia County Farm Bureau

Remorse

Ah, the fragrance of rising bread
As it filters through brain and tummy
After a dozen samples or so,
I feel like an overstuffed mummy!

Reducing

Nutritionists are experts when
It comes to losing weight and diet
They make it sound enchanting
But, I wish they too would try it!

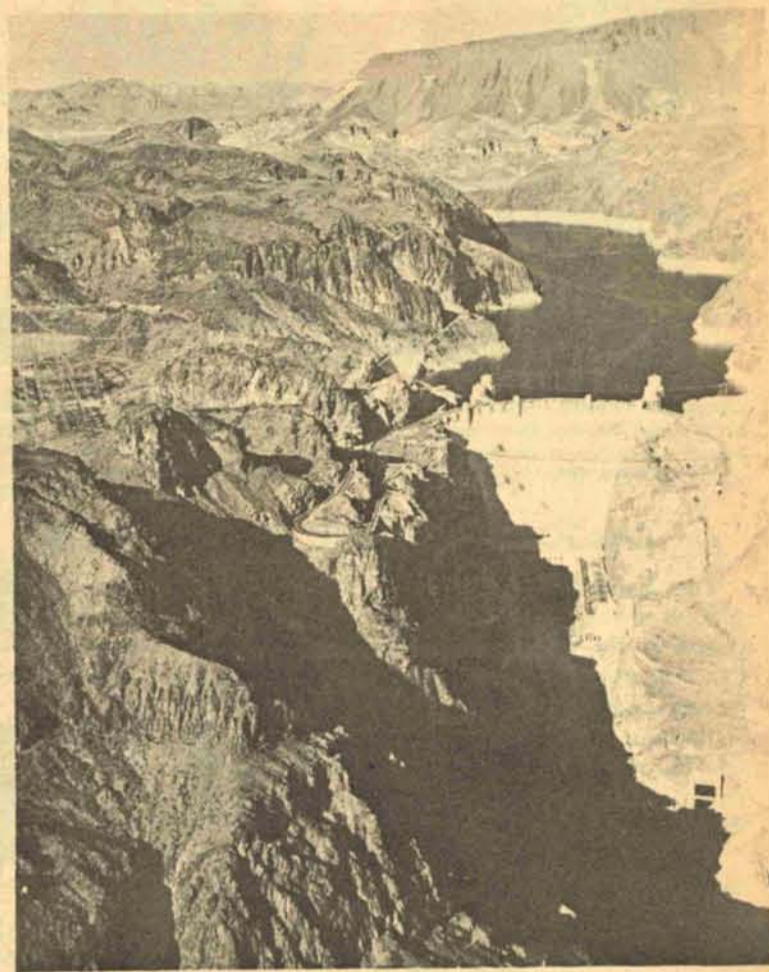
COMPLAINT

If, in this whole wide world,
I could have my choice of wishes,
One thing I'd do away with, and
That's my sink of dirty dishes!

The Task

When it comes to dressing chickens,
I declared, "I'll never do it!"
After eighteen years of having done so —
I declare, "There's nothing to it!"

LAS VEGAS TRIP IS SUGGESTED AS GIFT



LARGEST IN THE WORLD — Hoover Dam just 30 miles from Las Vegas, Nevada, holds back the hemisphere's largest man-made body of water, Lake Mead. The dam will be among attractions visited by many delegates touring to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting scheduled for Las Vegas in early December.

What could be more exciting than a gift-trip to Las Vegas? Farm Bureau officials suggest that nothing could — unless it would be a gift-trip to Las Vegas by way of Sunny California — in December!

With winter farm chores a major problem, it is not too early to plan such a trip now as part of the touring group which will swing to California as prelude to attending the 48th annual meet-

ing of the American Farm Bureau Federation, December 4-8.

The gift might be an anniversary present from husband to wife, or the December timing suggests a Christmas gift-trip from the family. Some county Farm Bureaus are offering to pay part of the trip expenses to selected "delegates" from their counties, and some Community Groups have launched fund-raising efforts to send representatives from their community.

With the redwood forests and Disneyland involved, it is obvious that the tour has been especially designed for the entire family, containing stops and features of interest to all age groups.

Hollywood Boulevard, Beverly Hills, Will Rogers State Park, Sunset Strip . . . all the sights of the world famed "land of make believe" will unfold in colorful panorama before the tour groups head for Las Vegas, site of the AFBF convention.

The tour leaves by rail on Sunday, November 27, and by air the following day. Both groups meet in San Francisco to enjoy five fun-filled days together until departure from Los Angeles, arriving in Las Vegas on Sunday, December 4, in time for the convention Vesper Service.

After spending Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the AFBF convention, the rail group will board the "City of Los Angeles" domeliner the evening of December 7, arriving in Chicago Friday morning. The air group will leave Las Vegas on the 7th and arrive in Chicago the same day.

A day-by-day itinerary of the 1966 Convention Tour to Las Vegas by way of California, plus cost details, are available from the Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, 4000 North Grand River Avenue, Lansing 48904.



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CANADIAN FARMER — Clarence Down of Exeter, Ontario, examines methods used by Michigan Elevator Exchange Bean Division in booking and delivery of beans. Seated is department manager Grant Kuhn. Others (from left) are Larry Ewing of the Michigan Farm Bureau, MEE Manager Stanley Sherman, and Down.

CARGO SOLD DIRECT TO ENGLAND

Two Farm Bureau-related agencies have cooperated to open a chink in an international trade door which remained tightly closed in the past. *The Michigan Elevator Exchange Division of Farm Bureau Services recently completed a sale of Michigan wheat direct to England.*

The marketing contact that led to the sale was made through the Farm Bureau Trade Development Corporation of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, an affiliate of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The wheat shipment was made out of Baltimore, Maryland, to Avonmouth, England, with its destination an English flour mill. The Michigan Elevator Exchange does not consider the size of the sale as most important, rather that opening contacts have been made. MEE officials express the opinion that Michigan farmers benefit most because a new channel for negotiations has been opened.

The negotiations can reveal the true value of Michigan wheat in terms of the price paid by the wheat miller in England as compared to the price the farmer sells for in Michigan. This is possible because the sale was made directly to the miller.

A closer marketing tie has been established through this sale and more offerings are expected to be made by the Michigan Elevator Exchange in the near future.

This is not the first contact made by the Farm Bureau Trade Development Corporation that has led to sales of Michigan farm products abroad. Past sales include Michigan potato products, onions, honey and miscellaneous canned fruits.

Michigan's First "Pear Day" Set

Pears — one of Michigan's major fruit crops — will be commanding the attention of the state's fruit industry August 9.

"Michigan Pear Day" is scheduled for then, in the Oceana-Mason county area. The day-long program will include tours of commercial and experimental pear orchards, and a foreign horticultural expert will be featured speaker.

"Michigan is the leading pear producing state east of the Rocky Mountains," according to Noel Stuckman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Market Development Department. "Our pear industry is expanding, especially in the west-central part of the state where the Pear Day will be held."

The field day will start at the John Rickert Farm, north of Shelby at 10:00 a.m. From there the tour will proceed to Hart for a view of the Vroom Cold Storage

operation, largest of its kind in the Midwest.

At noon, a luncheon and program will be held at the Hart Fairgrounds. Professor Tony Preston from East Malling, England, will be giving the main address. The afternoon will be spent touring some of the orchards in Mason County.

Sponsored by the Grower-Processor Conference Committee, Pear Day is one of a series of annual commodity days which spotlight one of the state's major fruit or vegetable crops.

The Grower-Processor Conference Committee is jointly sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau and the Michigan Cannery and Freezers Association. Committee activities are designed to improve relations between producers and processors and to promote the Michigan processing horticultural crops industry.

WORLD NEEDS GROW

To supply the needs of its rapidly-growing population — expected to double by the year 2000 — "the world needs new agricultural areas equal to the State of Illinois each year, with water supplies equal to ten Colorado Rivers," reports the Water Resources Committee of the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation.



WHEAT IS WHEAT — EXCEPT IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE!

By Larry Ewing

Wheat is wheat . . . well at least sometimes! That's the way the USDA seems to feel.

When it comes to acreage allotments, the USDA treats all classes of wheat as *wheat*. But in making PL 480 allocations, or in determining export subsidies the various classes of wheat are segregated. *The result is inequitable treatment for soft wheat.*

Delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting voiced concern about this government discrimination towards soft wheat producers. They asked that a study be made by the Michigan Farm Bureau on how soft wheat producers could effectively put an end to this discrimination.

"Soft wheat producers need a united voice" said Alton Wattles, Branch County, wheat producer. Wattles serves as chairman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Soft Wheat Advisory Committee. The Committee was appointed by MFB president, Elton R. Smith.

Serving on the Committee in addition to Wattles are Robert Norris, Berrien; Francis Bingham, Kalamazoo; George Dammon, Livingston; Robert Westbrook,

Ionia; James Clarke, Eaton; Harold Schutte, Arenac; Ruvert Vander Meulen, Missaukee; and Arnold Krentz. Appointed from the Board of Directors are Walter Frahm, Saginaw and Dean Pridgeon, Branch.

"Everyone knows that the government affects the price of wheat by setting support price and acreage allotments. But government manipulation of the important export market also has a great bearing on the price wheat farmers receive," said Wattles.

Export subsidies, the payments received by exporters from the government to bring the U.S. wheat price down to world price, are set each day by the USDA. They vary by class and are different for various parts.

In recent years export subsidies have been lower for soft wheat than for hard. This results in a lower domestic price for soft wheat when selling in the world market.

The use of PL 480 sales can also affect price received by growers. With a low export subsidy and ineligibility for PL 480 sales, soft wheat movement and price is at the mercy of domestic millers.

Some developing countries may desire soft wheat. They may be forced to take hard wheat, however, since the USDA has not authorized soft wheat for PL 480 sales.

At a recent meeting of the soft wheat advisory committee a recommendation was made to the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors. It pointed out the need for an organization of soft wheat producers in the soft wheat producing states. This would provide a united voice to point out problems to the USDA and Congressmen.

The Committee also expressed a need for information for farmers. Production, export possibilities, market outlook, how government action will affect price, all are items that could make the farmer money.

The Committee intends to study possibilities of better coordination of marketing within soft wheat producing states. Farmers must be organized in this area, too.

Wheat may be wheat, but the USDA will learn that soft wheat is different — soft wheat will have a united voice — through Farm Bureau.

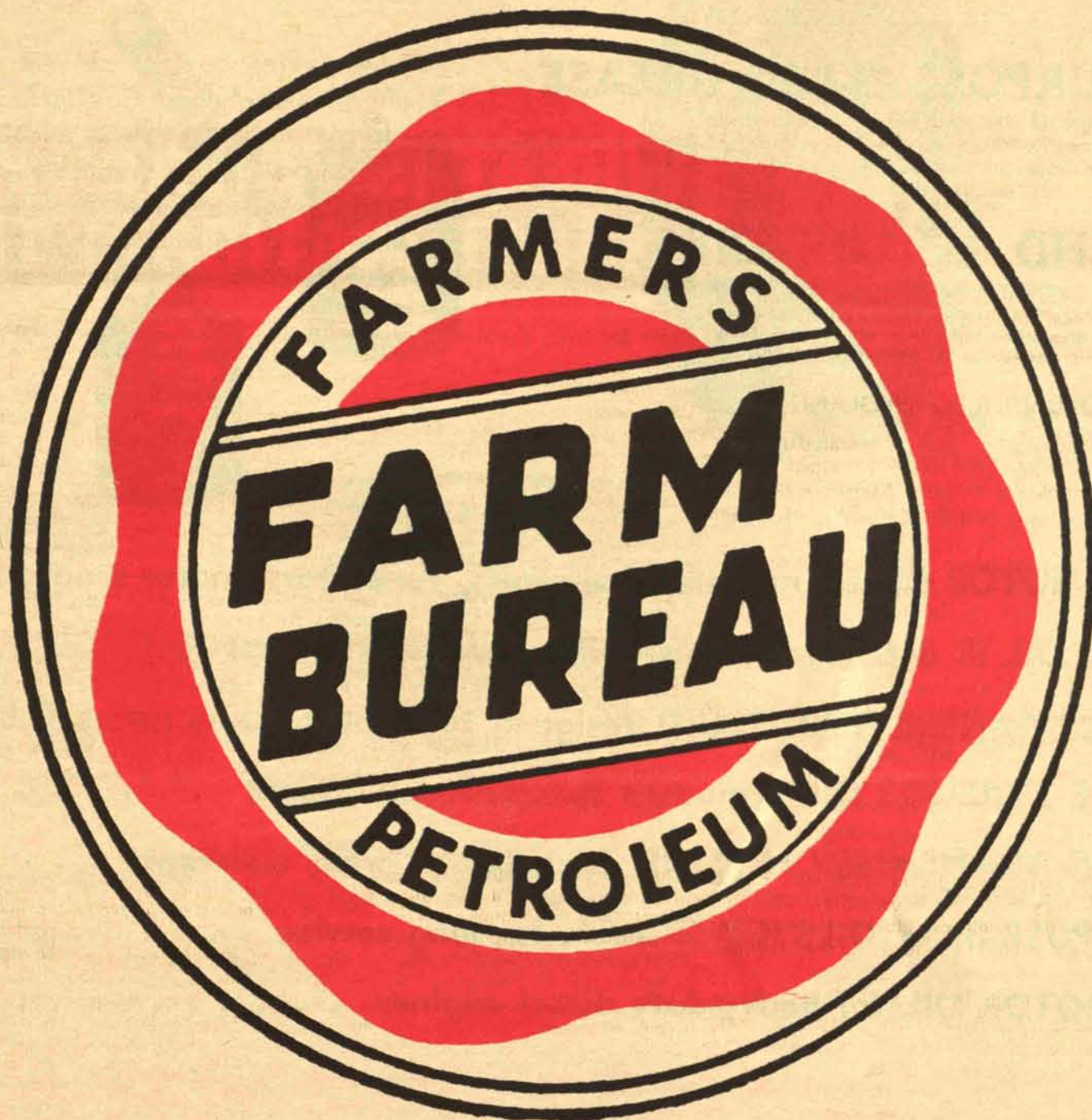
STATE GROWERS ARE . . .

HOSTS TO APPLE INSTITUTE



A STRONG SENSE OF HUMOR — is important to apple growers, or they couldn't "grin and bear it" when things go wrong. As it is, most are willing to gamble that next year will be better, according to Kenneth Bull, of Bull Brothers Orchards, Bailey. A director on the Michigan Farm Bureau board, Bull served as "Co-master-of-Ceremonies" for a recent banquet of the National Apple Institute held in Traverse City, Michigan. He and cohort Dr. L. P. Batjer, Wenatchee, Washington, regaled diners with stories about the quality and desirability of apples produced in their respective states. For good measure they threw in a little personal (and often hilarious) "history" of each other. Pictured listening to them are: (from left) Apple Institute President, Maurice Sanders, Emmett, Idaho, and Mrs. Sanders; Mrs. Bull and Dale Ball, Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The National Apple Institute is an apple producer-organization dedicated to the promotion and sale of apples. Meeting in Michigan for the first time in recent years, the Institute attracted nearly 700 people. Producers from about 30 states now participate in Institute activities. Guests were taken on tours of nearby orchards including those of the Old Mission Peninsula.

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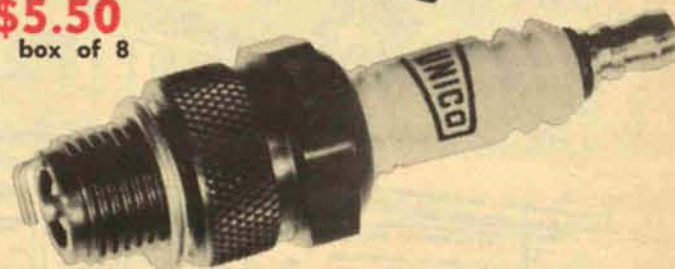


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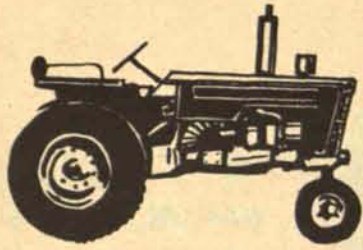
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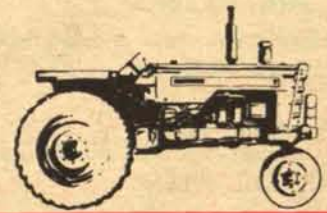
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"Old-Country" Visit Includes 5-Nation Tour!

Space remains available aboard the luxurious KLM Royal Dutch jet airliner, scheduled to carry those farmers and their wives taking part in the 1966 European "Farm Study" tour.

According to tour escort, Bill Day, popular Agricultural Director of radio station WCMR, Elkhart, Indiana, it is not too late for additions to the group which will leave New York Monday, Septem-

ber 5, and return three weeks later, September 26.

Day will carry special portable recording equipment to be used in daily reports for broadcast "back home" from the 5,000 watt station located near Michigan's border. Besides verbal descriptions of tour sights, Day plans to include visits with Hoosier and Michigan farmers on the tour.

Enthusiastic in urging participation, Day points out that those who wait for a perfect time to travel, usually end up waiting forever. "Farmers are always busy, so the only way they can ever have a 'trip of a lifetime' is to attack the project with the same determination that made them successful farmers in the first place," he says.

A former staff member of the Hoosier Cooperative Services, an affiliate of the Indiana Farm Bureau, Day is especially well-versed in farm matters and in exploring the interesting and unusual in agriculture.

A glance at the European tour itinerary clearly shows that this is indeed a trip of a lifetime.

For those dairymen with a soft spot in their hearts for sturdy Holstein cattle, a visit is planned to North Germany's important agricultural province of Schleswig-Holstein. Other sights of special interest to dairymen include touring both a Danish blue-cheese factory and a modern milk-canning plant.

For the historically inclined, there are mountain castles, grape vineyards, a canal ride in Holland and a visit to the beaches of World War II—Omaha and Utah invasion beaches, France.

Earlier, Farm Bureau members will be especially pleased by a full day reserved for meetings with personnel of the Farm Bureau Trade-Development Corporation, Rotterdam, and an excursion of the city including a trip by boat around the busy harbor.

Countries to be visited in the order of the tour itinerary are: The Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Belgium and France. Major cities include Rotterdam, Hoogland and Groningen in The Netherlands; Hamburg, Schleswig, Flensburg, Cologne and Bonn, Germany; Aarhus, Denmark; Brussels, Belgium; and Ghent, Rouen, Vimoutiers, Caen, Mont-Saint Michel (on an island) — and Paris, all in France.



Wm. H. (Bill) Day

The schedule for two typical days reads: "depart by special bus for Hoogland, there to visit the Schothorst—a research laboratory for modern cattle feeding. Continue to Dronten, a new town in Holland. Inspect grain silos and farm buildings under progress. Travel via Emmeloord, the largest town in the Northeast Polder, to Leeuwarden for dinner and overnight.

"Early departure for Hamburg with lunch at Hannover, travel by Autobahn (the giant superhighway ordered built by Hitler) to the Ruhr area and the beautiful city of Cologne, for dinner and overnight . . ."

Michigan farmers taking part in the two-state tour will leave for New York from Detroit. Indiana participants will depart from either Indianapolis or Chicago.

For more details, fill out the nearby coupon to receive a day-by-day itinerary.



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PICTURESQUE WATERFRONTS—will bring out camera fans on Farm Bureau's European "Study Tour" scheduled for three weeks, September 5-26.

EUROPEAN FARM STUDY TOUR

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Address: _____

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International Guests Greeted by F.B. Women

MACOMB COUNTY

"God be with you till we meet again" — thus sang 135 guests of Macomb County Farm Bureau women, including 57 members of the "Federated Women's Institute" of Ontario, Canada.

A luncheon in early July, prepared and served by Farm Bureau Women, was the occasion for the songfest at the Masonic building in Davis, following a tour by the Canadian ladies of the Macomb county Farm Bureau offices.

Attending the meeting were a group of Oakland county Farm Bureau Women, among them Mrs. Maurine Scramlin, chairman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committee. She told the guests of the purpose, structure and philosophy of Farm Bureau in general, and was followed by Miss Helen Atwood, who as Coordinator of Women's Activities discussed specific programs and projects of Farm Bureau Women in Michigan.

Also addressing the group was Mrs. Everett Small, Provincial President of the Women's Institutes of Canada. The Michigan women learned that the Canadian "Institutes" were similar to Extension Homemaker's Clubs here in the "states" and offer informal training to members in rural leadership, homemaking, and youth work.

HURON COUNTY

An Exchange Student from Cologne, Germany, was guest of the Huron County Farm Bureau Women at their most recent meeting. She is Miss Barbara Guenster, now making her home with the Roy Kerr family of Bad Axe.

She told of her own family and compared back-home living with conditions in her "adopted" country. A recent graduate of the Bad Axe high school, she added observations about the two school systems.

Especially interesting was her recounting of a visit to Berlin in June of last year and her impressions of the Berlin Wall. She showed a number of pictures taken in the area, including the guarded and highly reinforced wall itself.

Election of officers during the business meeting resulted in re-election of Mrs. Robert Thuemmel, Sr. and Mrs. Emory Motz as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively. Mrs. Carl Ritter was elected Secretary.

A bus trip to Saginaw has been announced for August 23, to include a morning shopping tour, luncheon together, and a food demonstration provided by Consumer's Power Company.

ISABELLA COUNTY

Nearly 100 persons attended the Farmer-Clergy meeting sponsored by Isabella county Farm Bureau Women in the Center Methodist Church recently. Women's Chairman, Mrs. Hugh Swindlehurst, acted as "M.C." for the program.

A "smorgasbord" of hot dishes and desserts greeted the farmers and Clergy guests as they entered the church basement during the noon hour. Ladies of the Walton Group were hostesses for the event, with the County Farm Bureau Women's Committee furnishing coffee, hot buns and platters of ham for guests seated at the many tables.

Seven church denominations were represented at the meeting, as was the Isabella County Ministerial Council. County Farm Bureau board members attended the gathering and mingled with their guests.

The three daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Stilgenbauer, of the Walton Group, sang a song appropriate to the occasion, followed by a talk by Melvin Woell, Manager of the Information Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Woell listed basic concepts which guide Farm Bureau, and summed up this listing of beliefs by adding "all these, undergirded by our faith in God."

YOUTH IN UNDERSTANDING

Deborah Kapplinger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kapplinger, Clare County Farm Bureau members, will return to her Farwell home August 19 after spending nine weeks in Finland in the Youth for Understanding Program.

"Debbie" was sponsored by the Farwell Methodist Church, the Clare County Farm Bureau, and the Farm Bureau Women.

She will be a Junior this fall at Farwell High School, where she will serve as vice-president of the Student Council.

She is a Sunday School teacher and pianist for the Farwell Methodist Church. Debbie is also a majorette in her high school band.



Deborah Kapplinger

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DANGEROUS TRENDS OUTLINED!



By Hugo Kivi
U. P. Regional Representative

Inflation and socialism, encouraged by "big" government, are dangerously undermining the individual freedoms and economic structure of the United States, eminent speakers told the Upper Peninsula Citizenship Seminar in Escanaba, July 12-13.

The Seminar was co-sponsored by the county Farm Bureaus of the Upper Peninsula and the Escanaba Chamber of Commerce.

Nearly half of the audience of 100 were young people selected and sponsored by the county Farm Bureaus.

The strike of machinists which halted five national airlines created problems in travel and the agenda had to be changed to get the speakers on the program when they arrived.

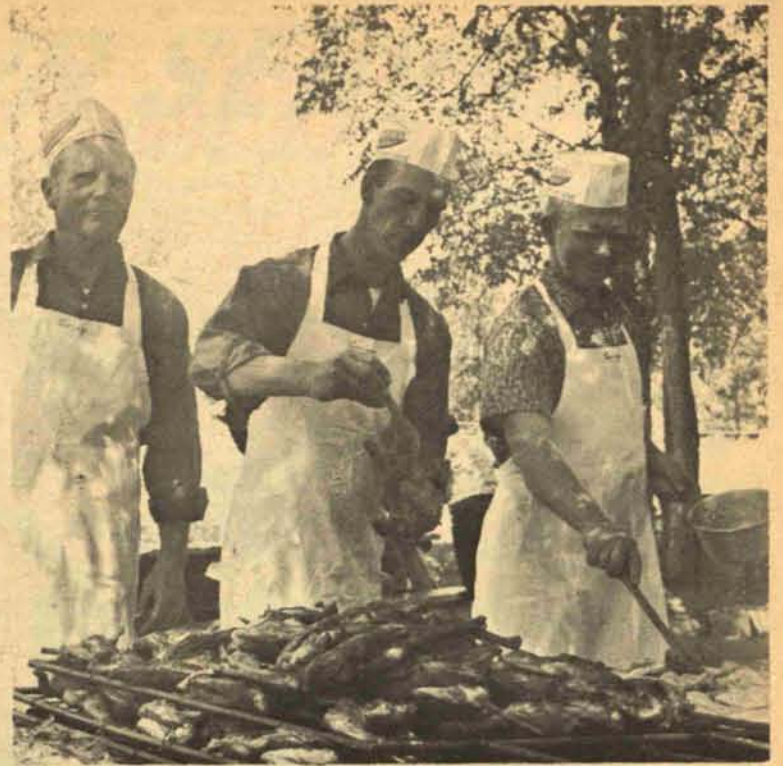
Seminar Covers Two Busy Days

Speakers for the two-day session were W. Cleon Skousen who spoke on the communist threat; Dr. Clifton Ganus who discussed the moral foundations of freedom, and Dr. Lewis E. Lloyd who covered the area of basic economics.

Also appearing on the program were Walter Lewke as representative of the Escanaba Chamber of Commerce and Farm Bureau Regional Representative, Hugo E. Kivi, who served as general chairman of the seminar.

The two-day event was well-covered by area press, radio and television.

Before adjournment, the audience was asked for comments and suggestions for future seminars. It was agreed that it should be continued and that other organizations and groups be invited to participate in the project.



CHICKEN BAR-B-Q—sponsored by the Baraga County Farm Bureau—was served to over 300 people at Sturgeon River Park near Pelkie. Proceeds from the annual event went to pay expenses for students to the Upper Peninsula Young People's Citizenship Seminar, Escanaba, July 12-13. The Bar-B-Q was one of several methods used to raise funds to send students to the seminar, which was sponsored by the Upper Peninsula County Farm Bureau and the Escanaba Chamber of Commerce.

Michigan State Fair

FREE to FAIR PATRONS
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FREE ENTERTAINMENT

Herb Alpert's Baja Mirimba Band, Aug. 28-29; The Kingsmen, Aug. 26-27; The Four Seasons, Aug. 28-29; Gary Lewis and Playboys, Aug. 30-31; The Temptations, Sept. 1-5; "Bonanza" stars Lorne Greene and Michael Landon, Sept. 2-5; Frontiersmen and Joanie, Sept. 2-5.

FREE INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS

Barnes-Carruthers Circus, Aug. 27-Sept. 2: trapeze artists, wild animals, clowns and other big acts. This show is presented before the Grandstand, free of charge.

Fun for the Entire Family

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Aug 26 thru Sept 5

MIDWAY

HORSE SHOWS

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COMING TOPICS

The State Discussion Topic Committee met Friday, July 15th. The committee examined many subjects for timeliness and importance to Farm Bureau members in the coming months.

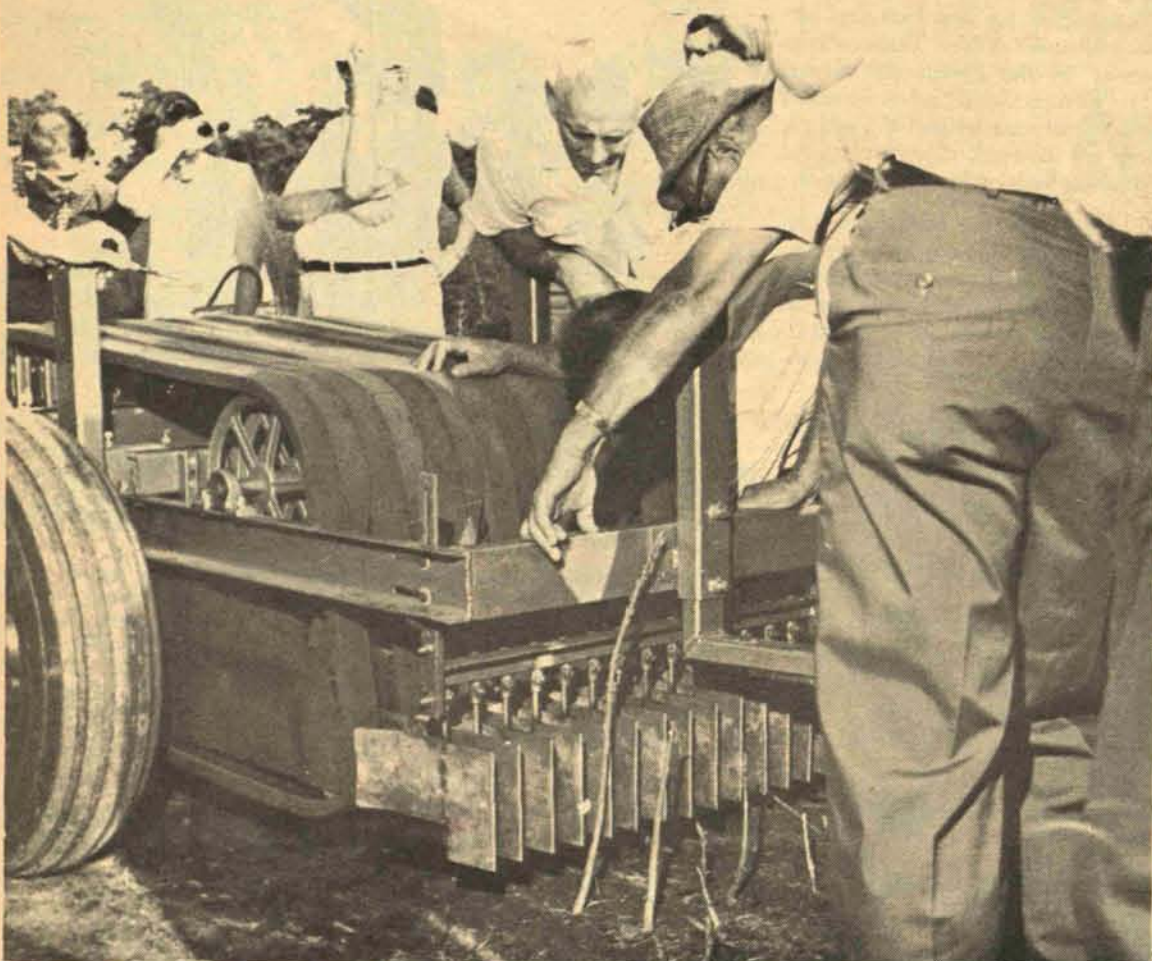
To allow some leeway of choice and adjustment of the program to changing events, eight possible topics were selected for the coming six months period from September through March. The following list is not necessarily in any calendar order.

1. Farm Bureau — Politically Active — Yet Non-Partisan?
2. Michigan's Proposal for a New Highway Financing Package. Property Taxes for Highways Again?
3. Federal Moves to Put all Farm Products Under Federal Controls. The recommendations of the National Commission on Food Marketing.
4. New Problems and Prospects in State and Local Financing of Schools.
5. How Farm Bureau Works on Legislation. The Example of the Ownership of Mineral Rights.
6. Should the Federal Government Establish a Cabinet-level "Department for Consumers?"
7. What is the Cause of a Constantly Rising Cost of Living? What Contributes? How Does it Affect Farmers?
8. Can a Farm Bureau Program for Marketing Michigan Soft Wheat Pay Off? The Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors recently appointed a "Soft Wheat Committee" to examine this problem. This Committee submitted the following request:

"The soft wheat situation would make a good discussion topic. Since wheat is grown throughout all segments of the state, this topic would be of interest in all areas of the state. It should include information on production, usage, the differences of hard and soft wheat, export situation, export subsidies, a look at Public Law 480 and possibilities of a wheat marketing association."

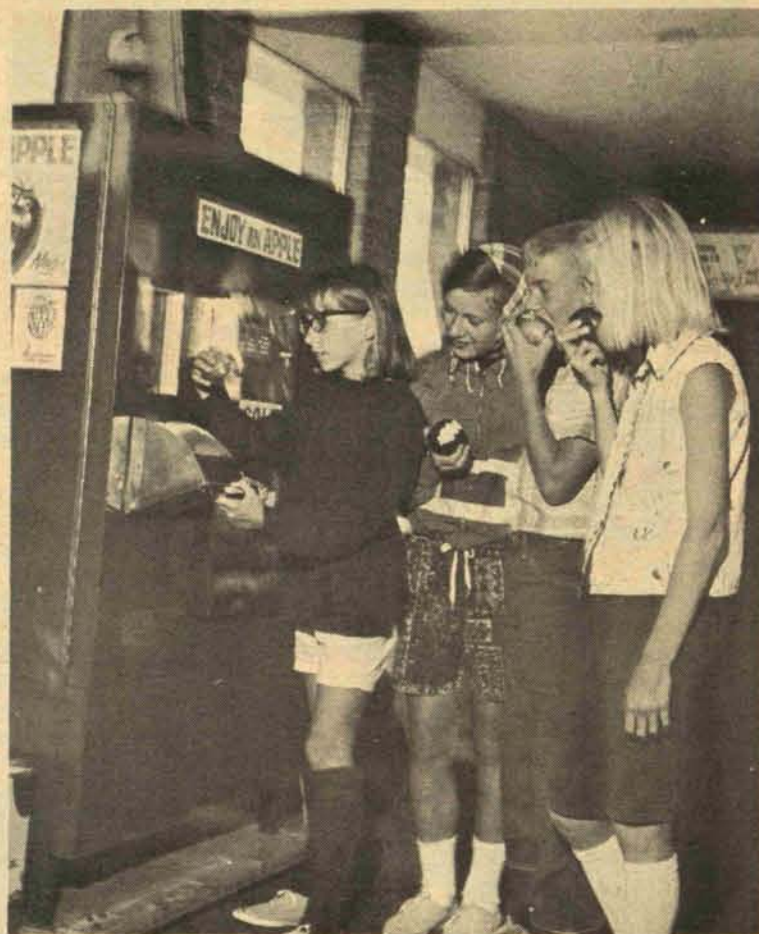
AGRICULTURE IN ACTION AROUND MICHIGAN

ASPARAGUS PICKER



HOW DOES IT WORK? — Asparagus producers eagerly examine a promising mechanical harvester invented by Illinois Farm Bureau member, Bernard Fuchs. The recent demonstration was sponsored by the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) on the farm of James and William Thor, Van Buren county. Michigan growers are also much interested in another asparagus machine, invented by Farm Bureau member Lloyd Gilbert, Muskegon county.

APPLE-VENDING



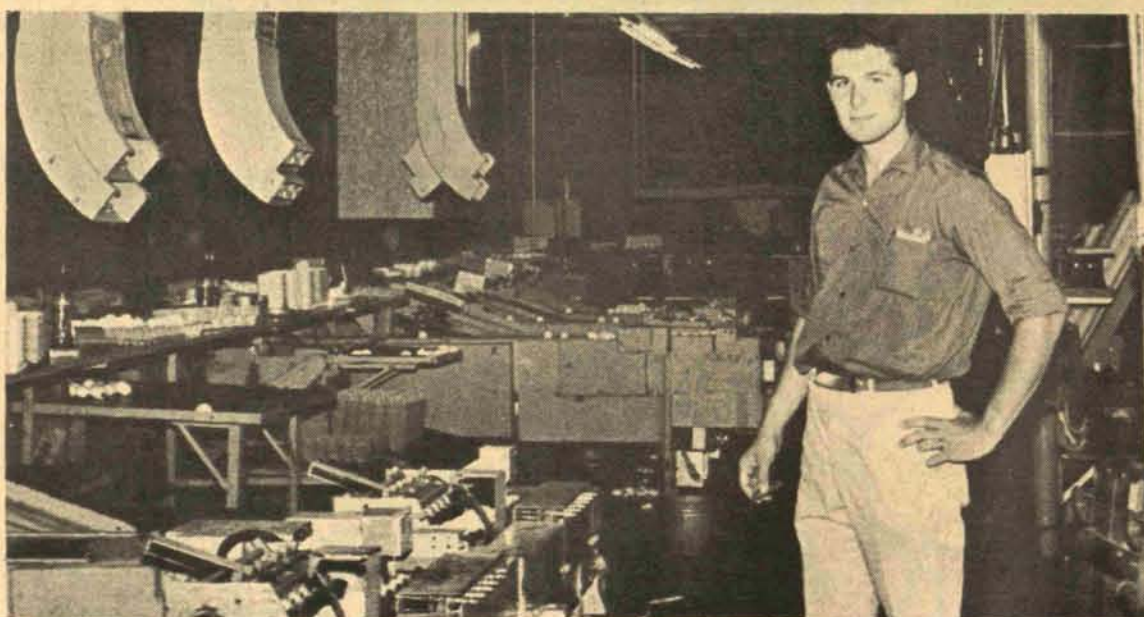
CHILLED APPLES — machine vended, catch the eye — and the nickles of Grand Rapids youngsters: (from left) Gayle Holmes, Betsy Bennett, Marlo Howison and Debbie Westerhof. The new refrigerated apple dispenser was part of a demonstration-display at the recent National Apple Institute held in Traverse City. Apples were from the famed Bull Brothers Orchards.

ELECTION "CAMPAIGN"



"IF I AM ELECTED — I'll work for your interests," argue Lee Steinhoff (left) and Helen Ann Bendall, (upper left) as they solicit the votes of Ann Geisler and Curtis Howall. The "election" was a demonstration in practical politics, staged as part of the recent Farm Bureau Citizenship Seminar.

EGG MACHINES



NETHERLANDS STUDENT — Adrian Dees, from the University of Wageningen, The Netherlands, examines egg-packaging machines at the Farm Bureau Services plant in Jenison, Mich. Dees has self-financed his U.S. visit to study cooperatives.

FARM LEADERS MEET



AGRICULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES — remain unlimited, according to MFB President Elton Smith, as he reviewed growth of the farm cooperative movement recently with office guests. From the left they are: Alfred Roberts, Pigeon; Dale Nye, State Future Farmer's President; Smith, and Edwin St. Johns, recently appointed state F.F.A. Adviser

STATE F.F.A. OFFICERS



ROLE OF FARM COOPERATIVES — is explained to newly elected Michigan F.F.A. officers by Stanley Sherman of Farm Bureau Services. The occasion was a dinner meeting sponsored by the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives and held in Farm Bureau Center, Lansing. Leaders from a number of prominent Michigan cooperatives attended and took part in a lively discussion period with the youthful leaders.

KINSEY HONORED



DEDICATED SERVICE — to Farm Bureau on the part of Don Kinsey, is recognized by those attending the national Information Conference, sponsored recently by the American Farm Bureau. Applauding near the camera is Roger Fleming, Secretary of the American Farm Bureau. Woodrow Luttrell, Director of the AFBF Information Division, is in the background. Kinsey (by lectern) was honored for 20 year's service. He is Coordinator of Education and Research for the Michigan Farm Bureau.

AT YOUR SERVICE...

1966 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the Community Farm Bureaus in Michigan. In August Farm Bureau shall have scheduled 360 monthly discussion programs in these Farm Bureau groups.

Local discussion-action groups are almost non-existent among the members of any other organization

Farm Bureau was bound to be different. It was founded by farmers looking for a way to cut their own patterns for agriculture's future. Such an organization must logically keep members in active, decision-making positions, insofar as possible.

One early leader put it this way. "Those who share, care! When people have a part in decision-making, they take a more active part in the program. And they place a higher priority on what their organization is doing."

This viewpoint entered into the program planning for the activities of the "discussion groups." Those who would do the discussing of issues and programs would share in the choice of discussion topics.

By 1940, two procedures were hit upon to make this possible. Community Farm Bureaus were asked to make suggestions for topics to be discussed. A list of current issues and problems was mailed to group leaders. Members could indicate their preferences.

It was the custom in 1940 to hold a series of member meetings in the eleven organization districts of the Michigan Farm Bureau. At the 1940 meetings, each district chose a member and an alternate member for the "discussion program committee."

This elected committee met for the first time in August of 1940. It would do two things — make suggestions for the improvement of the discussion program and schedule topics for a twelve-month period. Attention would be given to the preference suggestions sent in by the Community Farm Bureaus.

It was not long before efforts to schedule a full year of discussion subjects at one time ran into a snag. Many a topic went "cold" — became obsolete — before its place on the calendar arrived. Events of the world marched on, and left some topics stranded.

By 1943 the "State Discussion Topic Committee" began meeting each six months. This has been its schedule since that year. A twice-per-year meeting was not a total solution to the problem of timeliness of a topic, some still went obsolete — but fewer of them. The problem was met, finally, by placing one or two topic "extras" in reserve to fill any gaps which developed.

In the 1950's this committee judged various contests. There

were Community Farm Bureau awards to counties that showed the highest group gains. There were Community Farm Bureaus to be granted awards for the best all-around group program. These contests were stimulating and effective.

Members of the State Topic Committee normally serve two-year terms. Even-numbered districts choose members in even-numbered years, odd-numbered districts in odd-numbered years. Thus half the committee members always had at least a year of experience.

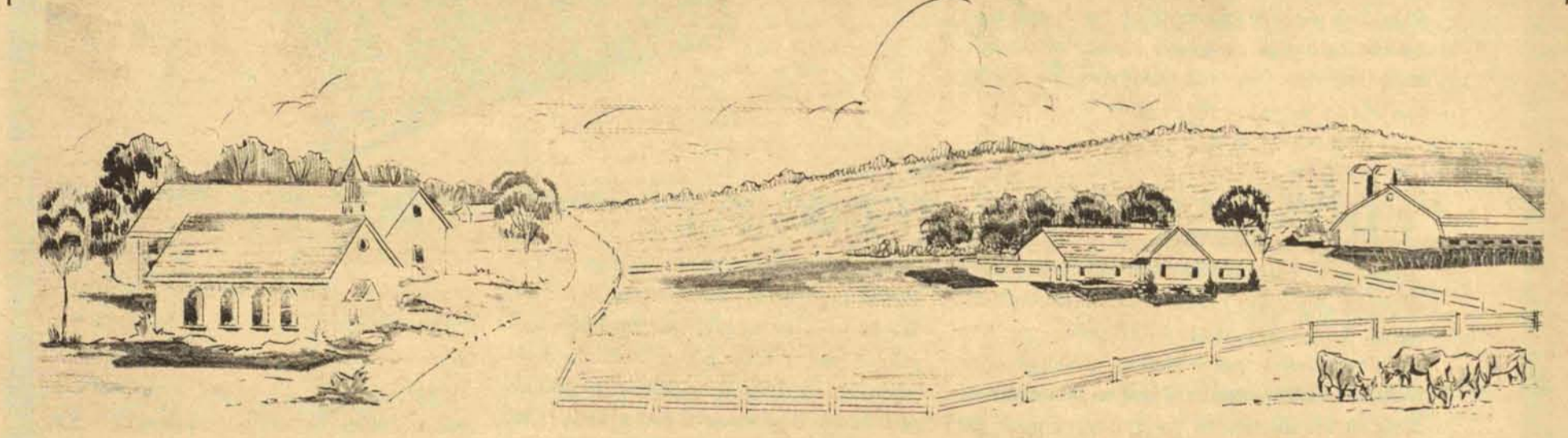
Program changes in 1964 discontinued the district meetings where the committee members were elected. To maintain the committee in its usual standing, the committeemen have been appointed by the state director who represents their district on the Michigan Farm Bureau Board.

Members of this committee should be honored for a remarkably high attendance record and a deep sincerity of purpose. Over 26 years of service, these members have averaged 90% of the committee in attendance at the meetings.

More than 100 members have served on this committee since 1940 — giving freely of their time and effort in showing how much they care, by how much they share.

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"I DO" says **GEORGE SHRIVER**
of Fremont

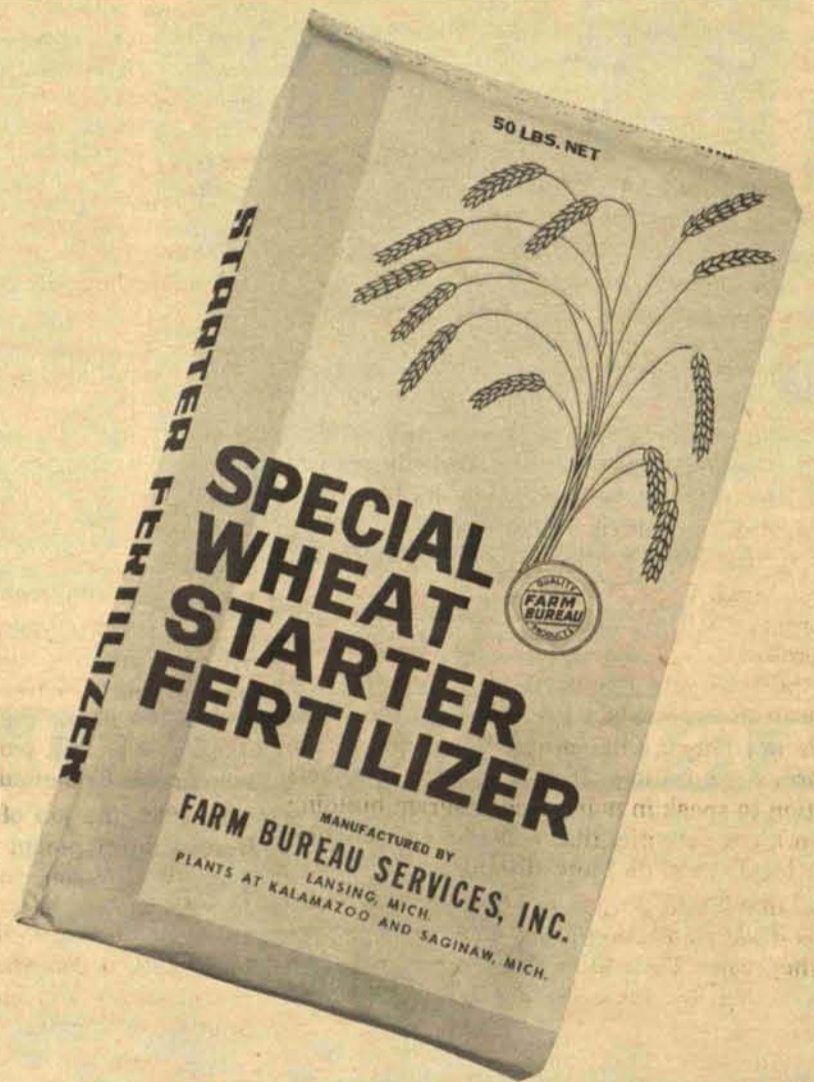
"I have used Farm Bureau Special Wheat Starter Fertilizer since the Fremont Co-op started selling it. Last year's yield of 74 bushels per acre tested 62 pounds per bushel . . . NO dockage because of NO moisture. I put on 30 pounds of 28% nitrate solution in the spring. I used 250 pounds of Special Wheat Starter on the wheat last fall but I am sure the yield will be down because of so much wet weather last fall."

"I DO" says **LYLE JESSWEIN**
of Buchanan

"Last fall we tried Farm Bureau Special Wheat Starter Fertilizer for the first time. We believe the wheat came on faster and stooped out a little better than the field where we used the same number of pounds of 6-24-24. The straw is just a little taller and the heads are a little longer. It looks as though we would have a better yield where Wheat Starter was used."

"I DO" says **ADRIAN ROTTIER**
of Fremont

"I have used Farm Bureau Special Wheat Starter since they started selling it at the Fremont Co-op. Last year I planted 9.2 acres of wheat using 300 pounds of Special Wheat Starter Fertilizer per acre. When I sold my wheat to the Co-op, I found I had a yield of approximately 60 bushels per acre."



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DISCUSSION TOPIC

COMMUNITY FARM BUREAUS are —

VITAL-NECESSARY-IMPORTANT!

Prepared by: Don Kinsey
Coordinator, Education and Research

The Community Farm Bureau is the member's "home base." Members can make of it a highly effective force in the community and a dynamo of strength within their farm organization.

These groups are the key to much of the Farm Bureau's accomplishment. The better the use made of them, the more effective Farm Bureau becomes.

Outsiders repeatedly look upon these groups in Michigan with enthusiasm, astonishment—with envy. They would give their shirts to have an organized system among their members to match. They recognize that the groups give members increased opportunities to be informed, make decisions and move to action. This strengthens any organization.

In 1939, the under-secretary of Agriculture was M. L. Wilson. That summer, Wilson addressed thousands of Farm Bureau members from twelve mid-west states. His remarks are still appropriate.

"The Michigan Farm Bureau has launched a continuing program wherein members meet monthly and discuss problems and issues which involve farmers all over the state and nation. Such an approach is as American as apple pie!

"This is not only a vital program to undergird a strong farm organization. It also puts the members in a position to speak in policy and program building and to work out activities that will take care of their problems locally and on more distant fronts.

"I hope that Farm Bureau in other states will develop this discussion-action group movement as rapidly as they can. Then they will have a real solid basis for action by their county and state Farm Bureaus."

Many states did. They came to Michigan, they saw, they followed suit. Wilson's comment makes a good point for members who do not take part in Community Farm Bureaus—where such members want an effective Farm Bureau, meeting modern problems.

Let's roll that point over a bit, both for members who do and members who do not attend Community Groups.

A VOLUNTARY farm organization is a special kind of body. It is not like a large industrial corporation, turning out cars or television sets with a million or two paid employees to do the work. The members are the only large supporting force available to do the many things a farm organization needs to do.

Whether the present need is legislative action or marketing programs, or whatever the job, the effort succeeds or bogs down in direct relation to the degree of member support. In such challenges, "no man is an island—no man can stand alone" and do what the occasion demands. No members, no single employed staff persons can carry the whole task by himself. Public persuasion and influence calls for many backers.

It was this basic fact, in part, that prompted Farm Bureau leaders to develop the Community

Farm Bureaus in 1936. The idea of the groups is founded on a faith in farm people. The leaders said, "We believe that if we inform our members, give them the facts about issues and problems, they will come through with good decisions. Farmers CAN speak soundly for farmers in public affairs. Farmers will be constructive in their proposals for program building and tackling issues. Let's give them an opportunity to do so through Community Groups."

Members liked the idea. The spread of Community Farm Bureaus in Michigan for twenty years was almost startling. By 1959, group numbers peaked at 1685.

For so long as the Community Farm Bureaus shall operate, that point of faith in the members holds fast. The present Farm Bureau leadership keeps that faith. In the spring of 1966, the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors declared that a high priority must be placed on the task of building, expanding and maintaining Community Farm Bureaus in Michigan. The board also recognized that this effort must be concentrated on young farm families.

Thus, history repeats itself. In 1936, the original drive to organize these groups centered in young farm families. Some of the original groups still operate. We honor the gray hairs of the members of those groups still working on the thirtieth anniversary of the Community Farm Bureau program.

In 1966, the job of putting the Community Farm Bureau development program into high gear falls to a new staff member at the Michigan Farm Bureau—Jack Deppong. He can help you build this program. He has a sparkle in his eye about the job ahead. So far as Jack is concerned, the only way is upward. If the members and leaders will work with him, the program will move.

Not with a rush, of course. There's lots to do. County Farm Bureaus should set goals for progress on a year to year basis. Young groups must fill in the gaps where older groups fall by the wayside. Members not in groups must be convinced of the worth of organizing one. Organizing teams must be developed and trained. It is not a simple job, but it is highly important.

Everyone recognizes that Community Farm Bureaus are Michigan's first line of action in Farm Bureau. They provide a "Life-line" between the member and his county and state organization. Groups can talk over problems, work out plans for solving them, suggest policies, work on projects for community improvement, develop rural leadership and act to support Farm Bureau efforts on a broad front.

And groups are also "to enjoy!" They are neighborhood affairs. Attention should be given to making their meetings sociable occasions, as well as sessions for positive action. A good group will strike a balance between sociability and serious purpose in its program.

The Community Farm Bureau should be the "stimulator" of the County Farm Bureau. Good groups

take the initiative to point out to the County Farm Bureau board directions for needed program activity. The members are out where problems have their impact. In such an organization as this, members should point much of the way. Actually, members sit in a position of leadership! Being organized creates that opportunity!

Some of the group's discussion sessions will be centered in local and county matters. Groups can set their own priorities—decide what is most important for discussion and action at any meeting. The discussion program is not "cut and dried" by someone else.

Discussion and action on state and national issues are only part of the group's opportunities. Michigan Farm Bureau urges groups to take action on local and county problems.

We once put together a list of the many projects that Community Farm Bureaus were carrying on—to build better communities. There were over 135 different kinds of activities!

Some examples include the fixing up of a community social center, furnishing a hospital room, aiding a family that had burned out, promoting better snow removal, clearing roadside brush especially at road intersections, organizing a rural fire protection plan, farm visits for urban school children—the list went on and on.

Excellent action—no doubt of it! It puts the "Community" in Community Farm Bureaus. The members put the tool to use as it should be used.

Of course, the Michigan Farm Bureau needs member support too. It needs to have members informed about what is going on in Lansing and Washington. How else could the necessary support be mustered to win for farmers total exemption from the personal property tax, as was done in 1966? Only informed members will know what action is needed, when and why. They are ready to act when a crisis reaches its peak. To discuss such matters is very much in the farmers' interest.

And when better programs are built, members will help build them.

It is much more difficult to inform unorganized, individual members. And the very act of discussing issues together enriches and sharpens the knowledge of present issues and problems.

Organized members are in the direct channel of action too. They can be alerted quickly when situations call for strong farmer support.

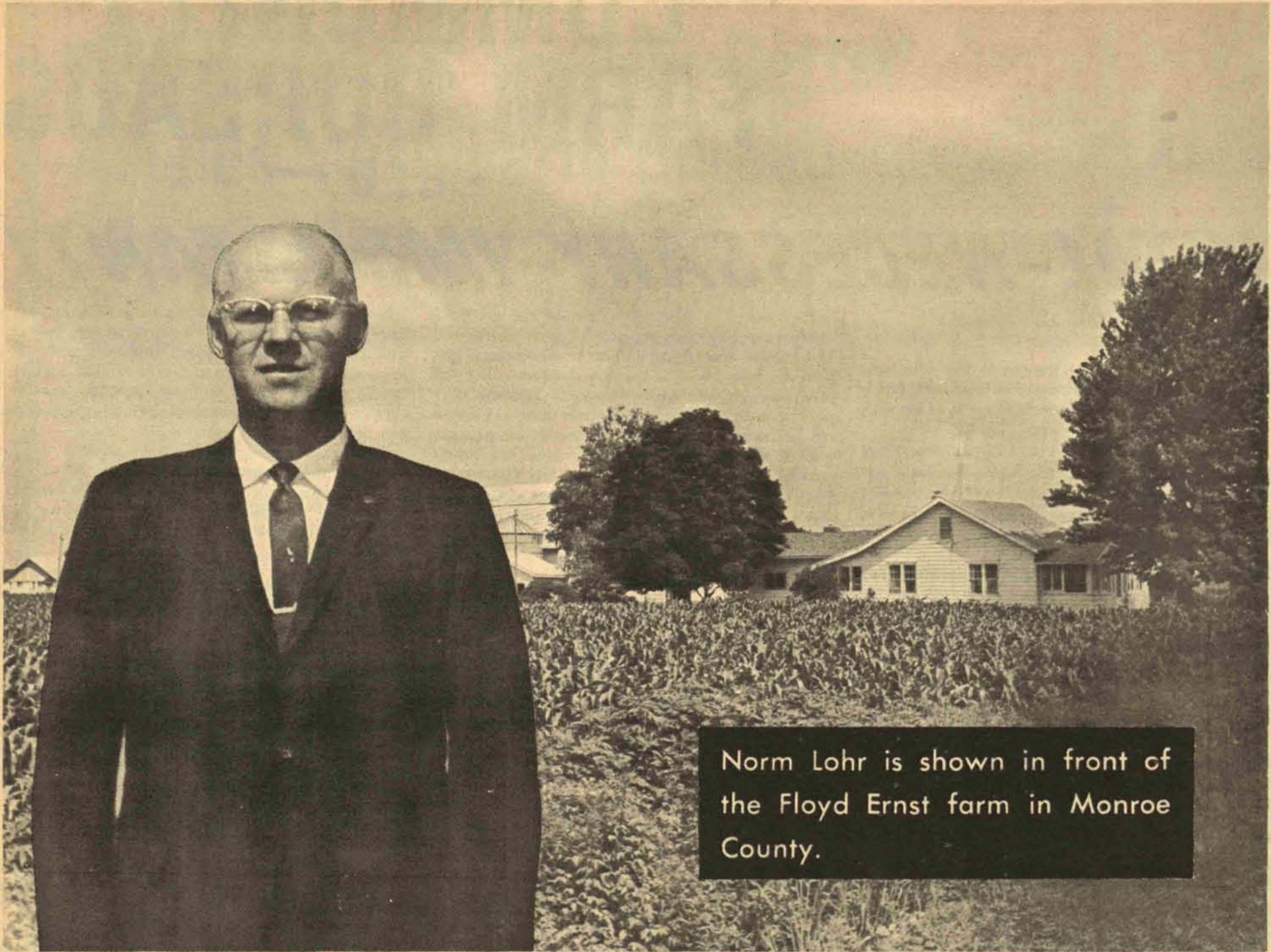
The Minuteman system becomes an action pipeline.

Be the times ever so modern, the value of this Community Farm Bureau information-action system still fills a key role in making Farm Bureau "an organization with something special in its kit." The only kind of farm organization that really counts is one that can get action when action is necessary.

Let's keep this ball rolling.

A special discussion exercise sheet is prepared for Group use.





Norm Lohr is shown in front of the Floyd Ernst farm in Monroe County.

Norm Lohr is a Farm Insurance Expert

He has had 12 years experience in assisting farmers in Monroe County plan the insurance protection they need for their particular farming operation.

Before joining Farm Bureau Insurance, he was a full-time farmer. His farming experience plus his insurance training and knowledge, and personal service have become an effective combination. He has provided over 5½ million dollars worth of Farmowners coverage for his insureds.

The more than 200 Farm Bureau Insurance representatives in Michigan are farm experts, too. They give every insured personal service and they have the know-how to fit protection to your needs.

Farm Bureau Insurance is the largest farm fire insurer in Michigan and the company pioneered and developed the Farmowners in 1961 and now has over 12,000 policies in force.

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