MORE STRENGTH — to do more things for Michigan farmers through Farm Bureau appears assured as substantial Roll-Call gains are totalled by members of the Field Services Division staff at Farm Bureau Center, Lansing. The new membership year opened with a spectacular 3,000 state-wide renewal gain in Farm Bureau memberships over last year at the same date. State goal is 57,600 family memberships in 1967.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS SOAR

The theme "On the Move" has proven prophetic for both the Michigan and American Farm Bureaus, with more farmers than ever before moving into the organization at a time when total farm numbers are dropping. This membership "movement" in support of Farm Bureau means more effective action programs in Lansing, Washington and elsewhere. Noting that state-wide Roll-Call renewals are a whopping 3,000 members ahead of last year at this time, Larry Ewing, Manager of the Field Services Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau, feels that the only question remaining is how far above the state goal of 57,600 members Michigan will be at the close of the New-Member drive in February.

"The substantial gain already shown in membership renewals, when added to our new-member figures will place Michigan once again in the 'Quota State' column," he said.

Ewing feels that farmers are faced with a number of unusual opportunities this year, with world-food needs at a new high at a time when American farm surpluses are at a low point, and following an election in which farmers showed surprising strength.

"Never before have farmers had so many solid reasons for joining together to work through Farm Bureau," Ewing contends.

Meanwhile, the American Farm Bureau Federation has posted new highs in membership. Besides declining farm numbers, 43 states out of the 49 and Puerto Rico which make up the American Farm Bureau Federation gained in memberships during the year, and three state organizations which raised membership dues to finance expanding programs also gained members.

Two neighboring states — Indiana and Illinois — are above the 100,000 member mark, as is Iowa, all of the Midwest Region. This year Texas joined this exclusive group.

Roger Fleming, secretary-treasurer of the American Farm Bureau Federation, told delegates to the recent national convention that increasing numbers of farmers will join Farm Bureau because "it is in tune with the changes in American Agriculture."

Smith to AFBF Board

Elton R. Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau president, was elected to the board of directors of the American Farm Bureau Federation by the voting delegates at the 48th annual meeting of the organization in Las Vegas on December 7.

President Smith was named to the 27-man board for a one-year term. He was one of three new members elected from the Midwest region to the board which will direct the affairs of the federation during the coming year. Also named from the Midwest Region was Frank Sollars, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation president, and Clark Robinson, president of the North Dakota Farm Bureau.

Smith and his wife, Lynde, operate a 380-acre dairy farm near Caledonia in Kent County, with a Guernsey herd which ranks as one of the best in the state. He has served as president of the Michigan Farm Bureau since 1964, and is also president of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., the farm supply affiliate of Michigan Farm Bureau.
AMAZING SIGHT

The Beetniks and "Viet-niks" on the campus of the University of California, at Berkeley, were an amazing sight to Michigan farmers.

The mild climate contributed to what, in all other nations, is the casual dress of those accustomed to easy living, as they agitated in groups around park benches, in the public squares, and assembled in Sproul Hall. Bearded face of long and hair, many were stockinged, with feet thrust into sloppy thongs and limbs into toreador pants.

At about the same time, a team of Navy Recruiters set up an information and enlistment booth in the Union building on the campus, triggering off another riotous demonstration on the part of the "anti-war" element who deemed the right "get out of Vietnam" information center.

Later, back at their hotel, the farmers read in detail of the demonstrations in local papers and discussed among themselves what they had seen. Most obviously nonsensical, in the farmer's viewpoint, was the demonstrators' rejection of social conformity even as they eagerly embraced conformity of their own design as evidenced by their uniform dress (or undress), by their belief in group action, and by their attraction to regimented thinking and action.

The Berkeley campus experience was a good background for the Farm Bureau members as they moved to Las Vegas and to delegate sessions there at the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting. In writing policy statements, they had time to contemplate the irony of a situation wherein the young people, who are the chief beneficiaries of our free-enterprise, free-market economy, have yet to understand how a government of laws provides the only possibility of individual freedom.

How many high school and college students realize that representative government cannot continue to function if the individual retains the privilege of making his living at work of his own choosing and without regard to political considerations?

How many recognize the truth of the resolution which Farm Bureau members wrote-that America's unparalleled progress is based upon freedom and dignity of the individual, sustained by basic moral and religious concepts, and that these include the moral responsibility of helping to preserve freedom for future generations by active opposition to all forms of collectivism, including that branch of international communism which now threatens to engulf the world?

If the principles of economies on which our nation is based were stressed more in our schools, young people would gain greater respect for our representative form of government and would acquire love for a country which gives them freedom.

As if to purge themselves of the sight of youthful "American" citizens violating against law and order and shouting vile epithets at recruiting officers, the Farm Bureau delegates officially reaffirmed their support to patriotic Americans throughout the world who are working and fighting for freedom, with special gratitude expressed for those in Vietnam.

Striking at the root of the Berkeley problem, the farmers worked to get at the basic principles of Americanism—freedom and dignity of the individual and our private competitive system who are working to make our country the most effective school in the world.

M.W.
"DESIGN FOR PROGRESS"

FIVE CO-OPS MEET!

"Design for Progress" was the theme of a joint meeting of five cooperative organizations and a state-wide co-op clinic, November 28-29, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing.


Named to the Farm Bureau Services board was a familiar figure to Farm Bureau people throughout the state—Martin Gans, Charlotte, former president of the farm supply company and former chairman of the MAFC Council. Garn replaces Walter W. Bynum on the board.

Joel Chapin, Mecosta dairy farmer and Mason county Farm Bureau leader, was elected to the Farmers Petroleum Cooperative board, replacing Wm. Hasenbank, III, Mason county.

Two changes occurred on the MAFC board, with John Vander Molen, Zeeland, replacing Paul Kanschele, Middleville, and Theodore Baumann, Barnes, replacing Carroll Robinson, Grant.

Keynote address for the capacity crowd was delivered by Michigan Farm Bureau secretary-manager, Dan E. Reed, who posed the question, "Will Cooperatives Serve Farmers?"

"In looking ahead, we should first look back to see what farmers have done through their cooperatives," Reed said. "By setting a state where we are, then setting stages along the line we have traveled, we can project the direction we may go."

He then listed areas where farmer cooperatives have "led the way": the first commercially produced rubber-tired tractor, known rubber-staining law, open formula feeds, high-analysis fertilizer, direct delivery of petroleum products, farmer financing, electrical service for areas of sparse population, farm-tailored insurance coverage, Workmen's Compensation amendments, property tax relief, and sales tax exemption on farm production supplies.

"If we fail to follow these general patterns and objectives, cooperatives won't serve farmers in the future. If we do move in this direction, with determination and a willingness to lead—not follow—the future for farmer-owned co-ops is bright," he concluded.

In his report to Farmers Petroleum Cooperative stockholders, executive vice president and general manager, Wm. Guthrie, described the past year as one characterized by progress in all areas of operation.

DAN E. REED

"Co-ops will serve farmers in the future if we organize to meet current and future needs— not yesterday's needs," said Reed. "If we provide a flexibility to meet the individual needs of farm families and farm operators, if we base our operations on the best possible service at the lowest possible price—rather than hoped-for patronage based on fixed, loyalty, or pattern of the past—and if they are financed with enough farmer equity to insure active interest and participation.

"In outlining plans for the coming year, Guthrie said, "The objectives of Farmers Petroleum continue to be to provide better products and services to meet the needs of today's diversified and expanding farming activities."

In his president's message to Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Elton R. Smith talked about growth. "There are a number of essential characteristics of dynamic cooperatives in the areas of product, service and active philosophy," he said. He listed superior products and service, association with growing markets, successful planning, firmly established principles and objectives, and well informed and participating members as characteristics necessary for growth.

"These traits and characteristics are inherent in the Farm Bureau Services organization, and while we feel a strong sense of achievement in the results of this past year, we look forward to meeting a future challenge which will see many new agricultural milestones established," he said.

Alfred Roberts, MAFC Council Chairman, told members that "change is the important word today. "The challenge before us is to adjust our operations to the needs of the farmers five and ten years hence. We must grow with this changing industry—operate more efficiently to offer prices equal to, or more favorable than, competition. We must be able to offer the expanded services that will be necessary."

The optimistic tone of the two-day meeting can be summed up in the statement of Carl Heidler, president of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative: "Our supplies and services are the best; they are competitively priced and from a company that is financially sound. With pride and confidence you can talk with your neighbors about purchasing their supplies cooperatively."

FARM BUREAU'S NEW QUEEN—Mrs. Charlotte Thomanel, Port Austin, made her first official appearance at the joint meeting, charming the crowd with her wit and beauty. The new queen, crowned at Michigan Farm Bureau's annual meeting in November, is a farm wife and teacher.

YOUGEST CO-OP LEADER—Ken Ruthig (right), Leslie, received appreciation award from MAFC Council chairman, Alfred Roberts. Other awards were presented by MAFC Inc., Michigan Rural Electric Co-op Association, Howell Co-op Company, Bath FFA Chapter, and Troy Lute.
FARMERS TESTIFY ON MINIMUM WAGE

The Michigan Department of Labor called a public hearing December 7, for the purpose of considering its most recent order (effective March 1, 1967) setting rules and regulations of the "Wage Deviation Board".

Wage deviations are deductions that are allowable to employers for certain fringe benefits given to employees. In the case of farm employers, these include meals and housing.

The Michigan Minimum Wage Law originally permitted such deviations to be as much as 40% of the wage. However, last year the Legislature reduced this figure to a 25% maximum.

Minimum Wage Law, farmers are presently paying the minimum wage and more, and that the allowable deductions have become in reality, additions to the wages paid. The present critical shortage of farm labor is such that farmers are paying workers in excess of the minimum wage and, in addition, are providing many perquisites such as housing, food, transportation, insurance, etc. This fact makes the total wages that can be earned by farm labor much higher than is generally realized.

Smith pointed out that while the regulations appear to concern only seasonal labor, other types of farmers may unknowingly find themselves in noncompliance with the law.

For example, the Michigan Minimum Wage Law applies only to employers hiring more than three employees between the ages of 18 and 65. However, a dairy farmer or general farmer, or anyone hiring one or two full-time men and providing the housing and the usual other fringe benefits, could find himself in noncompliance with the law if at any time during the year he hired extra help, even for a day, that would be more than three employees.

In this event, the regulations would apply to his full-time employees and he would be required to keep complete records of employment, showing the daily and weekly hours worked "computed to the nearest unit of 15 minutes," and also itemization of the value of any fringe benefits.

Farm Bureau recommended that because there appears to be a lack of sufficient data to arrive at realistic wage deviations, a study should be made by the Rural Manpower Center at Michigan State University.

Farm Bureau also suggested to the Deviation Board that the regulations should be clarified to prevent any farmer from unknowingly being in noncompliance with the law, and, further, that farmers should not be subjected to unrealistic bookkeeping requirements.

The impact of the minimum wage legislation has not yet been felt by farmers using seasonal labor because of Farm Bureau's success in changing the law, both in the 1965 and 1966 sessions of the Legislature, requiring studies by the Manpower Center on piece rates and requiring the Department of Labor to permit piece rates to be paid that reflect the minimum wage, based on productivity of the average worker. This has been a major gain and will simplify procedures and lessen the burden on farmers.
FARMERS PLAY AS DICE CLICK

From: Chicago Tribune
Thursday, December 5, 1966

BY RICHARD ORR
(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Las Vegas, Nev., Dec. 4—With the last of the slot machines and dice a steady taunting on the green felt tables in the gambling casinos, the Farm Bureau federation held secret sessions to open its 48th annual conventions. About 7,000 Farm Bureau leaders from 49 states and Puerto Rico are expected to attend the five-day meeting that continues today, with headquarters at the Stardust hotel, one of the town’s most opulent gambling palaces. That would be the biggest registration so far in the 48-year history of the annual meeting of the nation’s leading farm organization representing 17 million American families.

At numerous sessions on agricultural and other policies of national concern, the convention will hear from U.S. Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman and Rep. George M. Mahon (D., Texas).

Last Minute Substitute

This is the last minute substitute for Secretary Freeman, who had been scheduled to speak Thursday night to the country on a trip to the far east.

Today Marion D. Hanks, elder of the two sons of the late President of Latter Day Saints (Mormon), Salt Lake City, delivered vesper service message to open the convention. Then Mrs. Haven Smith of Independence, Mo., president of the Federation’s board to come here.

The other said his land is just not capable of growing a good crop and ‘I’ll do better this way.’

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

January 1, 1967

EDITORIAL COMMENT AND VIEWPOINT

FARM PROGRAM STUDY

A MINIMUM NEED

From: The Lansing State Journal
December 9, 1966

Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, said in a speech this week at the organization’s 68th annual meeting in Las Vegas that the chief purpose of the five-day meeting is not to get rid of the whole sorry mess of government farm controls, direct subsidy payments and price manipulations.

The Sullivan, Ill., grain and livestock farmer who is serving his second term as head of the federation, rejected as unrealistic the often proposed phasing out of government programs, saying it would be “like cutting off a dog’s tail one inch at a time—for far too much.”

Instead, Shuman said, the “new Congress should end all production controls, direct payments and price management authorities as rapidly as possible.”

The farmer said that with consumer demand strong and market prices generally above support levels “there never has been a better time to bring these ‘temporary’ programs to an end.”

Shuman challenged administration predictions that removal of controls would result in farmers being drowned in a sea of surplus commodities available on the world market.

Citing what he views as ample evidence that no such disaster would occur, the Farm Bureau president said: “Wheat producers have not planted all the acres allotted for 1967. Many of the retired acres will never come back into production as they have been converted to other uses.”

Shuman said the availability of land does not determine the price of wheat, soybeans, cotton or feed grains that are “price, the prospect for profit, and therefore, the cost of capital, are the most important determinants of production.”

He suggested several protective actions that should be taken in making the transition from government manipulated prices to the market price system.

A recent incident in South Carolina probably was a prime example of the kind of government operation Shuman says should be terminated.

United Press International reported that two “farmers who don’t like to farm overmaneuvered their country cousins in harvesting a crop of Uncle Sam’s give-away dollars by pitching a tent and camping out three nights so they would be sure to be the first in line when the local agricultural office began its annual ritual of contracting with farmers not to farm their land. The two campers were one of the 600 contractors who were allotted for 1967 under the federal cropland adjustment program which is designed to take a certain portion of acreage off of production and thereby avoid surpluses. The money is handed out on a first-come, first-served basis.

One of the two men who made sure they would be first in line is a dentist who retired several years ago.

“Program is ideal for a retired person,” he said. The two men said his land is not capable of growing a good crop and “I’ll do better this way.”

Such strange operations of the government’s complex and wide-ranging farm program are not new. And some have been far more fantastic.

Shuman’s call for an end of government farm controls is certain to be a matter of heated controversy between those who support his view and the Washington bureaucracy and probably also among individual farmers.

There is, however, an obvious need for at least a careful review of the farm programs in the light of conditions that now exist and for the prompt termination of the operations that result in an unnecessary drain on the people’s tax money without accomplishing any real purpose.
FARM BUREAU WOMEN
working, not waiting......

Scholarship Fund
Plans have been completed for the "Marge Karker Scholarship," according to the Farm Bureau Women's state scholarship committee. The scholarship, in honor of the woman who for 20 of her 37 years of service to Farm Bureau was the women's activities coordinator, will be awarded to an outstanding college and University student.

The scholarship will be available to students from a Farm Bureau family, enrolled at a M.S.U. in the field of agriculture or related fields of food science, food marketing, leadership training, agricultural journalism, food packaging or horticulture; veterinary medicine, medical technology or nursing.

Amount of the scholarship is to be applied toward the tuition for one year at Michigan State University. This can be renewed, but it must be reapplied each year by the Scholarship Committee.

Air Tour Set
BY JET TO WASHINGTON
March 13-16 are dates set for this year's Farm Bureau Women's Washington Legislative Air Tour. Plans call for two separate groups to participate in the combined "Legislative Leaders" and "Heritage Tour."

To make the project more effective, the women's Committee recommends that county Farm Bureaus select qualified people to serve as "Legislative Leaders" whose specific job will be to contact their Senators and Congressmen as Farm Bureau spokesmen. This group will receive priority briefing regarding their job in Washington, what the key issues are, and how to be effective as a spokesman for Michigan agriculture. January 13 is the deadline for counties to submit the names of their "Legislative Leaders."

Because the state Women's Committee and the state board feel this is one of the most important activities of Farm Bureau, they recommend financial assistance by county Farm Bureaus or County Women's Committees for persons selected as "Legislative Leaders."

The Michigan Farm Bureau and the Women's Committee will contribute $30 to each of the first 30 counties whose "Legislative Leaders" are selected; $10 additional to each county which makes membership quotas by February 28 — and another $10 to each county which makes membership goal by February 28.

Both tour groups will travel from Detroit to Washington by jet, and return. They will travel on different itineraries while in the nation's capital. The Heritage Tour will follow much the same pattern as in past years, with visits to the White House, Capitol, and other Washington office buildings. The Modest price is based on advance sale of both tours, and includes baggage handling, transfers, three nights hotel lodging, sightseeing tour and lunch on Thursday, tips to bellboys, etc., and transfers served by the airlines enroute and from Washington.

February 24 is the deadline for "Heritage Tour" reservations. The modest price is based on advance sale of tour packages.

Legislative Leader" reservations will be made by county Farm Bureaus, but these persons wishing to go on the "Heritage Tour" should use the attached reservation blank. Husbands and wives of selected "Legislative Leaders" are urged to participate in the Heritage Tour, since both groups will be together much of the time.

RESERVATION REQUEST
Return by February 24 to:
Farm Bureau Travel Service
4000 N. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, Michigan 48904

Reserve places on the Farm Bureau Women's Washington Air Tour, March 13-16. Enclosed is check for $110 per person; make check payable to Hoosier Travel Service.

NAME
ADDRESS
COUNTY
PHONE
GROWER-PROCESSOR CONFERENCE MEETS

Walter W. Wightman, Fennville fruit grower and past president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, was named chairman of the Grower-Processor Conference Committee at the committee's annual reorganization meeting in Grand Rapids, December 6.

Sponsored jointly by the Michigan Farm Bureau and the Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, the committee is comprised of an equal number of leading Michigan fruit and vegetable producers and processors. The committee's primary objectives are the improvement of relations between growers and processors, the promotion of horticultural crops research, and improved public relations for the industry.

Other officers elected by the ten-member committee are vice-chairman, Ron Prentice, manager of Michigan Fruit Canners Fennville plant, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Mary Rose of the Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Lansing.

Grower members of the committee, appointed by the president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, are Don Burdick, South Haven; Walter Wightman, Fennville; Gerald Stanek, Traverse City; Selma Koloski, Berrien Springs, and Peter Van Single, Grant.

Processor members are James Brian, Smeltzer Orchard Company, Frankfort; Ron Prentice, Michigan Fruit Canners, Fennville; Mark Glendenning, Morgan-McCool, Traverse City; William Hays, Gerber Products Company, Fremont, and E. G. Van Sickle, Oceana Canning Company, Shelby. These members are appointed by the president of the Michigan Canners and Freezers Association.

George McIntyre, Michigan State University; J. Lyle Littlefield, Michigan Department of Agriculture; Mary Rose, Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, and Noel Stackman, Michigan Farm Bureau, work closely with the committee as associate members.

An annual "commodity day" is held to promote one of the important fruit or vegetable crops in the state. A successful "Tour Day" was held last August in the Oceana-Mason County area. A "commodity day" is presently being planned for another Michigan fruit or vegetable sometime next Autumn.

Many topics of mutual concern to growers and processors are discussed by the committee. All growers and processors are urged to contact their nearest committee member if they have a problem needing industry-wide attention.

RESEARCH IN ACTION will be the focal point of the dairy program at the annual Farmers' Week (January 30-February 3) held at Michigan State University. Research projects in progress at the Dairy Cattle Research Center on the campus will be on parade featuring live exhibits. Dairy researchers will man the exhibits and be available to discuss how the research results can benefit today's dairymen.

Another feature attraction will be a thorough discussion on new concepts in dairy cattle housing that are emerging. Open, covered and warm dairy housing will be discussed from the economic, engineering and management standpoint.

The annual dairy breed association meetings and beefcones in Kellogg Center will kick off dairy activities on Monday, January 30. A special ladies program will revolve around "How Milk Makes the Difference," in our diet. Representatives from the Michigan Dairy Council will demonstrate how many uses of milk, how milk is used for consumption, and how milk became you--a prettier, slimmer, healthier "YOU,"

About 400 dairymen and their wives are expected to attend the All-Breed Dairy Banquet on Monday night. Dr. Sylvan H. Wittwer, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Michigan State University, will speak on the contributions of agricultural research towards agricultural progress. He will stress the problems and opportunities in Michigan Agriculture. Awards and recognition will be given for the high herd's and cows on the Dairy Herd Improvement Registry testing program during 1966. The recipient of the Michigan Dairyman of the Year Award will be honored. This award is given annually by the MSU Dairy Department to an outstanding dairyman in recognition of his unselfish service to the dairy industry of the state.

The all-day program on Tuesday will feature the new developments in dairy housing in this country and in Europe. Representatives from the Departments of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Engineering and Dairy will join forces in presenting up-to-date information on dairy housing. Background material on today's Housing Systems will be given as well as information on the effects of temperature and humidity on milk production.

Many spectacular dairy developments will be on display at the Dairy Cattle Research Center. Numerous research and educational exhibits will be shown. Research personnel in the Dairy Department and representatives from commercial concerns will be available to discuss the research in progress and the labor-saving devices on display. The latest information in all phases of dairy production will be available. Small groups and individuals will have ample opportunity to ask questions and discuss problems with the dairy scientists.

The electronic machine age will take the spotlight as dairymen will be able to observe first-hand how electronic data processing machines compute milk production records. IBM machines will be installed in the dairy barn to demonstrate how these machines can aid the dairymen in managing his dairy operation. On the basis of only one day's milk production they can rank the cows in the herd according to their productivity ability.

The "State Fair in Winter" will be in store for the visitors as they view the Grand Champion dairy animals from the 1966 Michigan State Fair. The champion cows of the major dairy breeds will be on display in the Hall of Champions at the Dairy Center.

The Michigan Professional Dairy Farmers will meet on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Lewis L. Longo, who was recently honored as Dairyman of the Year in Connecticut, will discuss the "Business Side of Dairying."

The dollars and sense in dairy nutrition will be stressed Thursday morning. Short discussions on many timely topics will provide an abundance of information for the person that is feeding dairy cows. How much protein is needed and how can urea be best be used in dairy rations? These topics will be discussed as well as brief reports on milk from molecules, maintaining normal better test, grain feeding in late lactation, computerized least-cost grain rations.

Feeding problems can be discussed with dairy nutrition researchers at the afternoon at the Dairy Cattle Research Center where numerous research exhibits will be on display. The dairy program will conclude in Kellogg Center on Friday, February 3 with the annual meeting of the American Dairy Association (ADA) of Michigan.

State Representative Charles J. Davis, Onondaga, President of ADA of Michigan, will conduct the program. Mr. Gordon Beaud, manager of the American Dairy Association of California will be the feature speaker.
COUNTIES SUBSTANTIALLY AHEAD IN MEMBERSHIP ROLL-CALL WORK

A positive, state-wide "gain" trend in Farm Bureau membership renewals is evident from early reports reaching the Michigan Farm Bureau in Lansing.

Official reports, some already greatly outdated, when coupled with more recent unofficial reports reaching Farm Bureau Center, reveal that membership renewals are a lusty 20% ahead of last year at this time, for a year-to-date gain of about 3,000 members.

A monthly tabulation is prepared for each issue of the FARM NEWS during the renewal and new-member period, listing counties in order of percentage of goal attained, the membership this year, and membership of the past year at the same date.

The first such report, printed below, shows many counties off to an unusually good start in the current membership campaign, with those Upper Peninsula counties (Houghton, Menominee and Delta) all tallying more than 50% of the 1967 membership goal at this time.

Currently, Tuscola has officially reported more members than any other county. It should be noted that many counties have substantial unreported memberships which will be added to next month's figures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Dec. 1 Goal</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Ago. County</th>
<th>Dec. 1 Goal</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Houghton</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26.77</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menominee</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>65.51</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>39.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>124.50</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>1,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmet</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>267.49</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalkaska</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>120.48</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuscola</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>2,066.48</td>
<td>799</td>
<td>4,622</td>
<td>7,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>686.57</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheboyoga</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>176.44</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>49.43</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>1,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>878.48</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>1,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berrien</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>234.44</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>1,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aitken</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>293.47</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>979.43</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alger</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>686.48</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manistee</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>387.42</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>1,267.42</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>851</td>
<td>2,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapeer</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>1,463.41</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>1,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walthen</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>1,751.48</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>1,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ionia</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>440.64</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baraga</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15.40</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>1,276</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Districts:

- Houghton: 301
- Menominee: 361
- Delta: 379
- Emmet: 268
- Kalkaska: 356
- Tuscola: 393
- Wayne: 313
- Cheboyoga: 379
- Iron: 268
- Isabella: 356
- Berrien: 313
- Aitken: 379
- Jackson: 268
- Alger: 356
- Manistee: 313
- Clinton: 379
- Lapeer: 379
- Walthen: 356
- Ionia: 313
- Baraga: 379

MEMBERSHIP

- Membership in Farm Bureau costs first, because without it, we have no organization. Then comes first, because without it, there is no Farm Bureau. Next comes the need for Community support. And finally, when you have Community support, the member can make his wishes known...

- Robert Near, Chairman
- Kent County Farm Bureau


can you afford

$20,000, $5,000 or $1,000 for a medical emergency?

You can ... with a Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan through your Farm Bureau membership.

You protect yourself against the loss of your crops, your farm buildings and livestock. So why not protect yourself against the cost of unexpected hospital and doctor care. Blue Cross and Blue Shield, through your Farm Bureau Group, can give you the health care protection you and your family need. For example, here are a few of the outstanding benefits you receive by being a member of the Farm Bureau Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan:

- Blue Cross covers your hospital bill with no dollar limit. It will pay for a full year of hospital care. The average Blue Cross payment for hospital care is about $40 a day ... possibly amounting to $15,000 for a one-year stay. But your hospital stay could cost more than average. No matter. Blue Cross pays for all of the high-priced drugs and laboratory services in a hospital you need to get well.

- Blue Cross pays up to $450 for surgery, even more in complicated cases. It pays for up to a year of doctor care in the hospital when you don't need surgery, such as heart trouble or asthma.

- Blue Cross covers expensive X-rays with no limit on how many. It pays for X-rays and laboratory services even when you're not in the hospital.

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield pay for all covered services when you have a baby. They pay for hospital outpatient care and emergency first aid in a doctor's office.

- One in every three families will need hospital or doctor care during the coming year. Can you afford a medical emergency? With Blue Cross and Blue Shield you can. And the best way to get the most Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage at the lowest cost is to join through your Farm Bureau group.

The deadline for Farm Bureau membership is January 15. So don't delay. Join or renew now!
CALIFORNIA REDWOODS — giants of height and time, are pictured as seen by Michigan Farm Bureau members in the Muir Woods National Monument near San Francisco. Found nowhere else in the world except along California and Oregon coasts, the redwood forest was a highlight of the trip which took 60 Michigan Farm Bureau members 5,000 miles as part of a convention tour.

PLANLOAD — of Michigan Farm Bureau folks, leave Lansing airport for sunny (?) California, where it rained much of the time they were on tour. But the weather was warm and green grass and palm trees helped.

ON STAGE — at the Las Vegas Convention Center, is pretty Patricia Miller, Michigan's entrant in the national Talent Display. Pictured as seen from the orchestra pit, Miss Miller sang selections from "Mary Poppins".

TTIKI ROOM — at Disneyland, was one stop for the pre-convention tour group. While rain poured down outside, the unusual animated Disney display inside concluded with a simulated but realistic jungle rainstorm!

OUR QUEEN — Mrs. Charlotte Thuemmel (second from left) is shown onstage at the Las Vegas Convention Center where she has been escorted by Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith. The Center seats 8,000 persons.

Just One Little Candle

The flame of one little candle is the symbol of hope. Hope for the present ... hope for the future. It signifies a desire on all our parts for better things. And, better things can be ours if we work at them just a little harder. Doing better at work, better at our home, being better citizens, and friendlier to our neighbors.

So this year welcome the future, light a candle in your heart, resolve that the future holds peace and prosperity for all ... work at it ... if we all light just one little candle what a brighter world this would be.
The problem of financial needs for school purposes is like the question, "How high is up?" Children grow taller all proportion to any rise in property values. Property taxes can't fill the local millage budget. Yet, schools are for children!

During the years from 1955 to 1965, the cost of raising a Michigan school child increased from 1,315,238 to about 1,912,000. There were about 60,000 additional every year. In the same period, school spending more than doubled $347 million to about $820 million. This does not include capital outlay or money for teacher retirement programs. The pupil increase ran from $263 to $429 per year. More pupils, more cost.

The trend for half a century has been for children to spend more years in school. Fifty years ago, many went to high school. In 1940, educated one out of three 17-year-olds; and in 1960, 71% of the high school age population attended high school. More pupils, more years in school, broader curricula and pupil services. Now we transport the children — forty years ago, we didn't.

We don't want to mention unrighteous pressure on property taxes for school support. Scarcely a local school expects to refigure a proportion to increase the local millage for school support. Many such proposals are being rejected by the voters. Property, as a source of revenue, has its inherent limit, and property owners have been recognizing the limit as having been reached.

The Detroit Council of Parents and Teachers says, "It is becoming increasingly clear that we can no longer rely on periodic millage elections to finance our public schools. Alternatives must be found. Fiscal reform is an absolute necessity if we are to provide an adequate level of funding for education. The best opportunity to secure fiscal reform is during the next session of the State Legislature."

With this in mind, the Detroit P.T.A. Council, together with other organizations, including Farm Bureau, held a conference on Wednesday, December 14th, to work out methods for doing the job. It is encouraging to note that other organizations are responding to a need that Michigan Farm Bureau has long recognized. For a number of years. But city budgets have been running dry.

Property has been carrying the lion's share of the costs of all government in Michigan for years. In 1964, property paid 43% of the costs. Sales and use taxes paid 22.1%. All other taxes combined yielded only 34.6% of the funds — for all Michigan government programs and local.

Until some alternatives are reformed to relieve property from the tax load, a good formula is needed to equalize the distribution of state funds for school support. This tax burden of the day is not where the educational load is being located. Only one giant industry — or annexes them. Workers from the city factories move into suburban areas schools become overloaded. These subdivisions mean new streets, sewers, lighting and other community services. Farmers get hit with the heaviest tax increase in the newly populated areas. Farm assessments skyrocket.

Lacking any equalization of state funds for schools leaves children in low valuation districts with less support for educational programs. One recent suggestion is that the tax base be equalized among school districts on the basis of adequacy of school support. This stresses the needs for bringing some balance into the financial picture of the school districts.

But there have been formulas to help equalize school support. Some of them have worked. The Legislature determined what these formulas shall be from year to year. In the face of growing enrollments the Michigan Legislature increased the state aid appropriation about $71 million in 1965 and added another $49 million in 1966. This gives some relief to property taxes. Some districts were able to reduce millages. Others avoided tax increases. Farm Bureau backed these moves.

How does the state aid formula help to equalize per capita resources for various districts? There are not so many simple. But the 1966 formula comes close. This formula is not exactly what we have had previously. They are not the final answer to the money school finance problem, but help.

The 1966 School Aid Act provides that money be distributed to K-12 districts under one of two formulas. Which formula is used depends on the amount of its state equalized valuation per pupil. If a school district has a state equalized valuation per pupil of $12,738 or more, "Formula A" is used. Formula A sets a gross equalized valuation per pupil of $207.50, and finally multiply the state equalized valuation per pupil by 0.015. Subtract what you get from 407.50, and you have state aid. You can then do the best you can. If it levies less than 8 mills, it is out of the state aid picture, entirely.

Formula A works as follows:

Let's assume that your district is levying 10 mills or better for state equalized valuation per pupil (total valuation divided by number of pupil-SEV per pupil by 50,000). Subtract what you get from 420.50. Multiply the result by 0.015. Subtract what you get from 815, and finally multiply the result by 0.015. Subtract what you get from 1,215,738. Formula A will yield a better return. If the state equalized valuation per pupil is less than $12,738, Formula B is the better.

Formula B has a larger deductible. The deductible is 8 mills and is multiplied by a deductible millage of 0.5. Formula B works as follows:

Take your gross allowance per pupil — $407.50. Find your state equalized valuation per pupil (total valuation divided by number of pupil-SEV per pupil by 50,000). Subtract what you get from 407.50, and finally multiply the result by 0.015. Subtract what you get from 1,215,738. Formula B will yield a better return. If the state equalized valuation per pupil is less than $12,738, Formula B is the better.

The whole trend of pressure against property taxes has led to more diversified taxing resources for various districts. This has complicated the state aid formula. The state aid formula helps to equalize the per child state aid. It is not necessarily the right answer. The state aid formula helps to equalize the per child state aid. It is not necessarily the right answer.

The delegates then called for: "The people of Michigan must settle their own school finance problems or Washington will enlarge its influence and control."

In their recent November sessions at Michigan State University, the voting delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting spent much time and effort dealing with matters of adequate school financing. They recognized that the total problem of adequate and equitable school financing is inextricably tied to the present tax structure and can only be solved by realistic tax reforms which shift much of the local school costs from the present property tax to other sources of revenue.

They wrote — "We recommend that Development of a new state aid formula should include consideration of factors other than property valuations alone. A reasonable state aid formula should be developed to assist school districts in meeting costs of building needed facilities. "The state's share of operational costs should continue to be at least 59%. "Sufficient funds should be appropriated to pay in full all state aid formulas."

As to taxing methods, the delegates said: "We call attention to the fact that no end is in sight for the continued rise in property taxation unless the Michigan tax structure is modernized . . . while some important progress has been made toward tax reform, meaningful reform must result in a balanced tax structure."

The delegates then called for: "Repeal of the business activities tax and the intangibles tax. "Significant tax relief on property. "New sources of revenue for local units of government. We believe that this should include the use of the income tax by the county rather than cities. "Improved assessment and equalization procedures. "Permit assessment and taxation of new property for school purposes the first year it is built. "A statewide, broad-based tax on net income, with definite provisions to lower taxes on property. It should not be necessary to exceed the constitutional property tax limitation. "Prohibit local income taxation on non-residents. "Assessment of agricultural land as farm land as long as it is so used instead of on its possible potential value. "While no citizen cares to pay taxes, we believe every citizen expects to support his schools and other local and state government services through a fair and equitable tax structure."
HELP YOUR IDLE DOLLARS
EARN MORE—INVEST IN:

Series "A" 6% Debentures

(Non-assessable)

Issue of 1965 — 15 Year Maturity

6% simple interest paid annually on September 1

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

4000 North Grand River
Lansing, Michigan

For a copy of the prospectus and a call by a licensed salesman, complete and mail to:
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.
Securities Promotion Dept.
P. O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan

Name: __________________________
Road: __________________________
Town: __________________________
County: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
No obligation

This advertisement is neither an offer to sell or a solicitation to buy any of these securities. The offering is made only by the prospectus.

---

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: 25 words for $2.00 each edition. Additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12 or $12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word. For a copy of the prospectus and a call by a licensed

---

14 FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Cash grade pure dairy and storage bins and equipment. All sizes.

For information contact: George Kleinheksel, Route #5, Holland, Michigan. 52nd Street, Allegan County. Phone Hamlin 1-330-50 Linwood, Kansas City, Missouri.

---

22 LIVESTOCK

CATTLE FEBRER—Feed fed by Dr. Morris Park, 8% phosphorus mineral feed in your hog feed. The Gelatin Bone Co., Box 125, Emmett, Michigan.

---

24 PLANTS & FLOWERS

600 ASSORTED SWEET ONION PLANTS—All varieties—mix pack. ORDER NOW! TOPECO, "Home of the sweet onion," Box 916, Emmer, Michigan. (12-6-15P) 14

---

26 POULTRY

POULTRYMET—Use Perfect Balancer, 8% phosphorous mineral feed in your feed! Get Perfect Balancer at your feed store! For a Free prospectus, write: Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Box 827, Emmett, Michigan.

---

34 WANTED

We need dry feed butcher cattle that are fresh and not bruised. We give you $5 per head over the dam asking price. A written contract and 2 receipts required. Also looking for another butcher cattle producer to buy. Write for more details. Dr. Hugh Grady, Box 196, Michigan. (10-5-36P) 20

---

35 WOMEN

FARMERS: Check the value you get in Gelston Bone Perfect Balancer, the mineral feed of champions:

---

INDIANHEAD CEMENT. Eight different grades. Call by phone for details. A. J. Jenkins, Sales Manager. 904 Center Street. (12-6-15P) 20

---

SLEIGH BELLS. Write or phone for details. A. J. Jenkins, Sales Manager. 904 Center Street. (12-6-15P) 20

---

FARMERS:

For a copy of the prospectus and a call by a licensed salesman, complete and mail to:
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.
Securities Promotion Dept.
P. O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan

Name: __________________________
Road: __________________________
Town: __________________________
County: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
No obligation

This advertisement is neither an offer to sell or a solicitation to buy any of these securities. The offering is made only by the prospectus.

---

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE BIG QUESTION:

Will 1967 Bring TAX REFORM?

The new Michigan Legislature will be faced with the "moment of truth" in its 1967 session.

There is no question that the predictions of fiscal experts are not only going to be true, but will be more serious than first anticipated. According to the most recent published estimates, state spending for the current fiscal year 1966-67 will total approximately $505 million. Tax income will provide about $400 million—thus, nearly $107 million of the $167 million surplus on hand will be gone by July 1, 1967.

The Legislature will need to pass a budget of nearly $100 million more next year just to keep standing still and pay for the "built-in" increases. A deficit of $80-$100 million could be a reality by July, 1968, even if no new spending is approved—but indications are there will be increased spending. For instance, the Civil Service Commission has recently approved wage increases averaging seven percent to the 19,000 state employees. A six percent increase went into effect last year. Total cost of the new increase will be approximately $21 million.

Another problem facing Michigan is the fact that the economy is probably leveling off, and what has been a rosy economic picture begins to take on some shade of gray. This too, will be expected, as no economy can continue indefinitely the rapid up-waves of those funds that Michigan has enjoyed for the past several years.

In the face of impending red ink, it becomes apparent that increased revenues will be sought. Thus, tax reform becomes more important than ever before.

Personal income in Michigan is at an all-time high. Taxpayers, many people are paying less today, as a percent of their income, for the services they receive than ever before.

It is encouraging to note, however, that Farm Bureau's tax program continues to receive a great deal of favorable public attention. It should also be remembered that much of that program has already been achieved. Farm Bureau members will recognize that many other organizations (educational, business, etc.) are beginning to propose tax programs similar to those that have been part of Farm Bureau's policy for a number of years.

It is also encouraging to note that educational organizations are beginning to realize that instead of merely demanding more funds, they must also take on the responsibility for determining the source of that money.

It is now generally accepted by everyone that the property tax can no longer carry the burden and must not be increased, but should be decreased.

Farm Bureau leaders have, for some time, worked with other organizations in an effort to encourage support of total tax reform. On December 1, 1966, Farm Bureau was a co-sponsor of a statewide conference on Fiscal Reform for Quality Education, held at Cobun Hall, Detroit. Major speakers included Governor Romney, James Kelly, from Columbia University, New York; Dr. William Hobbs, nationally known tax expert from the U. of M. and Dr. Harold Spohnberg, President of Eastern Michigan University. Several Legislators attended and participated in the conference.

There were also nine discussion conferences—each with five total registrants. Farm Bureau Legislative Counsel Bob Smith served on one of the panels.

The Conference informally adopted a resolution calling for the adoption of a basic fiscal reform program in this session of the Legislature and adequate and proper funds to meet the needs of education and that the tax burden should be allocated equitably. It was generally agreed that property can no longer carry the burden and that any tax reform program must include a personal and corporate income tax, along with adjustments of other taxes.

The Conference also decided to have a second statewide conference on Fiscal Reform to be held in Lansing early in the 1967 legislative session.
MAKE SURE YOU HAVE
THE BEST FARM INSURANCE

It takes just 30 minutes. Call Bill Briggs at 697-3146 in Linwood, Michigan. Ask him to give you the facts on the Farm Bureau Insurance Farmowners Policy. Then, compare it to your present fire, wind and liability insurance.

HERE ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF THE FARMOWNERS POLICY:

1. **Convenience** – You pay just one premium – and one insurance representative handles all your insurance needs.

2. **Broad protection** is provided for your home, farm buildings, personal property and legal liability. You have coverage for fire, theft, wind, liability, vandalism and many other types of loss.

3. **Low cost** – You pay much less than if you purchased the coverages individually. And, you can choose money-saving deductible plans.

More than 12,000 Michigan families have chosen the Farm Bureau Insurance Farmowners Policy to protect their farming operations. They’re sure they have the best possible farm insurance. **If you’re not sure**, contact Bill Briggs or any one of the 200 Farm Bureau Insurance representatives located throughout the State.

*It’s worth 30 minutes to be sure.*