LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL — (left) Dale Sherwin, Don Reed and Robert Smith, are posed before a drawing of Michigan's Capitol, symbolic of farmers' growing concern with legislative affairs. Michigan farmers have much at stake in the 74th session of the legislature, now well underway. Farm Bureau is the only farm organization full-time in the Legislature, where nearly every bill introduced affects farmers in some manner.

74th SESSION-MICHIGAN STATE LEGISLATURE
Editorial

the "INHERITORS"

George Bernard Shaw is reported to have said that youth is such a wonderful thing—that it's a crime to waste it on children.

Like it or not, the young people are taking over the country in an apparent determination to not let their youthfulness go to waste. A majority of all foods bought constitute a majority of our population. Statistics show that youth aged 15 to 24 now constitute a majority of our population. This new generation—which Time magazine calls the "Inheritors"—has strongly influenced such solid markets as automobiles, housing, music and entertainment, clothing, and the entire food industry.

In Grandmother's day, the lady of the house purchased and buttered her own chicken for Sunday dinner. In today's family, the daughter lost the ability to cut up the already killed and cleaned chicken, one Home Economist recently observed, "and her granddaughter has lost the ability to cook one which is already killed, cleaned and cut up."

Such young people are largely responsible for the close to 150 million new foods every week, 2,500 of them per year, plus the scrapping of thousands of older products. Most grocery profits now come from food products unknown ten years ago.

Chinese internal strife—stemming from deliberate riotous actions of Red Guard youth, has affected an estimated 70 million Chinese, mostly young people on the campuses of Michigan State University and Berkeley. China, Russia, Canada and a number of other countries join in the United States in deploving the challenge of an action-oriented population averaging 25 years of age or under.

Although there is evidence that the farming industry remains relatively untouched by this youthful advance, (Michigan farmers average a bit over 50 years of age) a number of changes are taking place within agriculture which relate to the new youth movement—changes which farmers must not ignore.

To keep up, 50 young farm couples were invited by the Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliated companies, to visit Lansing and out-state service facilities, and to join in looking over the whole business of farming. (See photo story on adjoining page)

It is significant that the average age was 25, and that all but two were full-time farmers. Acreages ranged from a top of 1,000 acres, to a low of 60, with an average farm 400 acres.

Most importantly, though, young men and women are directly involved in all phases of farm affairs. As inheritors of modern agriculture, it is apparent that they intend to also be the leaders of farm publicity. As one young lady who already holds offices in Farm Bureau.

What do such substantial young people want from a farm organization? Improved prices are high on the list, with much of this improvement expected through more control of markets and marketing procedures. Some, such as Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jennings, who farm 700 acres in Genesee County, stated plainly that "bargaining for prices" would be the most valuable way in which Farm Bureau could serve them in the future.

"Apparently we are going to have to become larger all the time to keep up," the Jennings feel, keeping a wary eye on increasing land and machinery costs. "There will be fewer farmers, and larger ones, and they will need strong organization and representation," Mrs. Jennings said.

At this point, 20-year-old Gordon Behrenwald, who farms 720 acres with his wife, in Kent County, feels that in his opinion Farm Bureau is the best organization to serve the agricultural needs of the farmer, "so matter how diversified these needs may be, and to make farming a progressive and prosperous occupation."

His thoughts were echoed by Leroy Klein, who farms 600 acres with his wife, in Kent County. "Farm Bureau is the only farm run institution that we have going for us."

President's Column

TIME POOLEERY

Our Michigan Legislature of 1967 has swung into session. There will be plenty on the docket to concern farm people, both in new and in unfinished business.

Long overdue action on tax reform still pressures for action. The small sum of money involved last year in exempting personal property and other special items only riddled the surface of the needed tax reform. We still have a lot of people who need to discover that the taxing of property is not the answer to the whole problem of local financing.

The 1967 Legislature also has the important job of ironing out the difficulties in the Workmen's Compensation law and coming up with a workable plan that farmers can live with.

But a matter that calls for prompt action early in the year is the battle for double daylight saving time that Congress has tossed in our laps. It means more to farmers than most realize. Our way to escape it is to have the Legislature exempt the state from the law.

Have you really taken a close look at what this double daylight saving time means? Last April, Congress passed a law requiring that every state must set its clocks ahead an hour on the last Sunday in April and switch them back an hour on the last Sunday in October.

This action would put Michigan in a special time bracket badly out of time with the sun. Back in 1949, Michigan took action to rid itself of the problems of the then novel daylight saving time by switching our clocks back and forth twice a year and got tired of it. The legislature put Michigan in the Eastern time zone since 1949. This gives us an extra hour of daylight saving time. Few other states have their clocks advanced in this fashion, so the situation is rather special to Michigan.

But now, if we go along with Congress, we will be going into DOUBLE daylight saving time. For farmers, the extra shift ahead on the clock would create problems for quite some time of year.

The Farm Bureau delegates put it rather clearly in their policy statement adopted at the November convention.

"The time change will take place an hour later, by the clock. Harvesting of grain, hay, berries (some vegetables, too) and other crops could not start until the sun was up or later because the dew would not have dried.

"And yet, any hired farm help wants to work the same hours which are normal in the community. If the farmer were to hire someone to work this leaves a very short day for (their) work during a very busy time of year. If the family works to take advantage of the sunlight until nearly 10:00 p.m. they cannot take part in social and civic activities in the community.

"Children waiting for school buses would have two more months of darkness in the morning hours. I think this means two more months of extra hazard for the kids who are crossing the roads to and from school buses in the darkness.

As for me—I'm a dairyman, and my cows operate by the normal and natural course of the day and the sun, and not at the pleasue of Congress. Time switches are worse than systems with milking schedules, especially where times for pickup at the farm are changed.

The Michigan Legislature could avoid all this nonsense by taking a few minutes of its time and exempting Michigan from the so-called "Uniform Time Act of 1966" which isn't uniform and which involves switches and switchbacks.

Michigan Farm Bureau has been making persistent efforts in previous sessions to get the Legislature to exempt the state from this change. You can help by circulating such petitions.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS - February 1, 1967
Young Farm Couples
At Lansing Seminar

Photo-Story by Charles Bailey

"Farm Bureau doesn't need leaders content to mark time because of uncertainty," Michigan Farm Bureau president, Elton Smith, told the Third Young Farmers Conference at Kellogg Center.

"These times call for bigger men, because the problems get tougher—and we are looking for big men—stout-hearted young men and women to lead Farm Bureau in an age when new action is a necessity, and change with wisdom is a requirement for survival," he said.

Welcoming nearly 50 young farm couples to the conference, Smith challenged those present to go home and become a part of the movement that will keep Farm Bureau effective as a farmers' organization.

In inviting them to ask any questions they wished during their stay he commented, "There is nothing sacred about any program because it is under way or because farmers built it. Programs must stand on their own two feet and do the jobs needed."

Starting with President Smith's welcome at noon, January 3, the young couples representing counties from all over the state were guests of Michigan Farm Bureau and its affiliated companies for three days.

Tuesday afternoon the group visited Farm Bureau Center on North Grand River in Lansing where they were given briefings on the operations of the various Farm Bureau divisions. On a short tour of the buildings they saw the new television studios being equipped in the building. Another high point of the tour was the Data Processing Center operated by Farm Bureau Services.

The next morning the Farm Bureau Services staff, under the direction of executive vice president, William N. Guthrie, gave their guests a preview of the organization.

One young farmer mentioned afterwards, "I know farming is big business, but this really is bigger than I had imagined."

The "medicine show" team of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative provided insight into the oil business. A team of sales manager, Arlo Wassen, and district manager, "Red" Sheridan, built and cured a miniature tire. When the tiny, but authentic, tire came smoking from the high-pressure mold, a cheer went up from the audience.

After a visit to Leonard Refinery in Alma, the group moved to the Saginaw terminal complex of Farm Bureau Services at Zilwaukee. Here, Ed Powell and Bob Reeve of Farm Bureau Services explained how the farmers' grain or beans come into the terminal, are tested and stored against the day they will be shipped by boat, rail or truck to millers and processors all over the world.

At the terminal, the braver ones rode the 200-foot-high manlift to the tower of the terminal where they saw Michigan navy beans being graded by a bank of electric eye graders. Faster than the human hand can travel, they saw beans go by the eye with defective or off-colored ones kicked out of the "hand picked" grade.

Next on the tour was the ultra-modern egg processing plant operated by Farm Bureau Services at Ray. Here Egg Division manager, James Seddon, showed the group how this facility with its new egg cleaning-grading-packaging-and-shipping machine turns farm eggs into "store-packaged eggs" with human hands seldom involved.

Back at Kellogg Center on Thursday, the Insurance Group was the subject of discussions led by executive vice president, Nile Vermillion, of the Farm Bureau Insurance Group. The rising cost of repairs to both cars and drivers came in for lengthy discussion.

The secretary of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives, L. A. Cheney, emphasized for the group the importance of youth among the leadership of the state's cooperatives.

Harry Foster of the Michigan Agricultural Marketing Association, MACMA, explained how the facilities of the organization are available to all producers to facilitate the orderly negotiation for the sale of their products.

Pointing out that there is a substantial need for regular farm hired men as well as seasonal labor in Michigan, M. J. Buschlen of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association, MASA, reported on the placement of seasonal workers this year. He told the group that there already is a substantial listing of openings for skilled, regular jobs on farms on file in his office.

The formal sessions over, questions answered and new-found friends assured, "Yes, we are certainly coming to see you when school's out," everyone rushed off home to kiss the kids and feed the cows.

Welcome to Lansing—and the facilities of the Michigan Farm Bureau is extended to the Young Farmer Conference by President Elton Smith. Pointing to the need for able and aggressive leadership, he challenged them to find their place within organized agriculture through Farm Bureau. The couples came from all parts of Michigan.
Deadline for Scholarships

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Scholarship Committee announces that March 15 is the deadline for applications for the three scholarships which they offer: one for Michigan State University, one for practical nursing, and one for cooperative elevator and farm supply scholarship for $100.

Applicants must come from a Farm Bureau family, be a Michigan resident, and have a financial need. Practical Nursing scholarship applicants must show proof of acceptance by a School of Practical Nursing. The Michigan State University scholarship will be limited to juniors and seniors with certain academic standards.

Those interested may request application forms from the Michigan Farm Bureau Women at Miss Helen Atwood, 4000 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing 48904. After submitting the application, a personal interview will be arranged with the Scholarship Committee for those with good references.

This is the fifth year that County Farm Bureau Women's Committees have contributed toward the Michigan Farm Bureau Scholarship Fund. Members of the Committee are: Mrs. Mari- rice Scramlin, ex-officio, Holly; Mrs. Aslith Wieland, Charlevoix; Mrs. Dorothy Baccus, Lake Lin- den; Mrs. Maxine Toplift, Etna Rapids; and Mrs. Bertha Johnson, Pleasonton.

The Marge Karker Honorary Scholarship Fund is now underway with some county Farm Bureau Women already completing their applications. The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarships for county women wishing to pursue higher education. The Scholarship Committee is hoping for an initial fundraising completion date of July 1, 1968.

FARMERS JOIN THE "JET" SET

The Farm Bureau Women's annual Legislative Air Tour to Washington, D.C., set for March 13-16, this year features two groups — "Legislative Leaders" and "Heritage Tour.

Legislative Leaders, selected by County Farm Bureaus to be Farm Bureau "Spokesmen" while in the nation's capi- tal, will follow a slightly different agenda and will receive prior briefing on current legislative issues. Farm Bureau members will travel together, followed by a tour of the Capitol for the Heritage group, and a briefing at the American Farm Bureau Office for leadership. Both groups will attend hearings in the afternoon.

Wednesday, the Heritage tour will visit the AFBF offices while legislative leaders meet with their Congress- men. During the afternoon, both groups will watch the House and Senate in action. Thursday's agenda calls for a tour of Washington and surrounding sights for the entire Michigan delegation, with a 6:00 departure time for the return trip home.

Cost of the tour is $110 per person, covering tour transportation from Detroit to Washington, overnight hotel accommodations, and dinners served by the airlines enroute to and from Washington. Deadline for Scholarships is March 15.

FARMS OF THE FARM BUREAU

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Cutting the Cake — in honor of retiring board members and their wives, is Mrs. Maurine Scramlin, flanked by her guests (from left): Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Diamond, Donald Ruhlß, Ward Hodge, Mrs. Hodge, Mrs. Wilbur Smith, Wilbur Smith, Mrs. Ruhlß and Raymond Kucharèk. The cake was baked by Maxine Topliff, former vice-chairman, Farm Bureau Women.

To Co-op Council

Elton R. Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau Services president, was named to the board of directors of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives at its 36th annual meeting, January 17-18, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The National Council is a nationwide organization of farmers' marketing and purchasing cooperatives, and state organizations of cooperatives which represents some 5,700 co-ops serving a combined farm membership of nearly 3,000,000.

Heading the Michigan delegation was Smith, official voting delegate for Farm Bureau Services Inc., and Carl Heisler, Calhoun county farmer who serves as president of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Inc., and Carl Heisler, Calhoun county farmer who serves as president of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Inc.

Others who took part in the Louisiana meeting were: L A Cheneúg, executive-secretary, Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives; William Guthrie, executive vice-president and general manager of Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative; Leon Monroe, treasurer, Farm Bureau Services; Edsel Steffin, general counsel, Farm Bureau Services, and William Wilkinson, associate general counsel, Farm Bureau Services.

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Past Service Cited

The Board of Directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau took time out from their regular January session to honor five former members of the board who have recently retired from board duty.

Honored were Raymond Kucharèk, Gaylord, a 2-year member, representing the Farm Bureau Young People; Donald Ruhlß, Dexter, a director for three years prior to his recently joining the staff of the Michigan Farm Bureau as fieldman in District 3; Edgar Diamond, Alpena, who represented District 10 for four years; Wilbur Smith, Burlington, who served as a member for six years, and Ward Hodge, Swartz, the "dean" of the group, with 20 years of board service, including four years as President of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

In presenting each of the former members with mementos of their service, Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton Smith, told of their farming and leadership backgrounds.

For example, he cited a "big city" background while a child as an interesting twist in the life of Raymond Kucharèk, whose parents spent a number of years in Detroit before moving back to the home farm near Gaylord, a farm which they converted from a general operation to dairying. Ray was active in the Future Farmers of America before serving as Chairman of the Farm Bureau Young People's Committee from 1964 to 1966.

"If we had to lose Donald Ruhlß from the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors, I can't think of any place we'd rather lose him to than deeper into Farm Bureau—for example, as a member of the Michigan Farm Bureau staff." With this explanation, Smith told of Ruhlß's new position as District 3 regional representative, where he predicted a boost in membership because "of your hard work.

Ruhlß is a former president of the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau, and has served on the State Topic and Resolutions Committees.

Farmer and rural school teacher, those were among qualifications cited by Smith in honor of Edgar Diamond who helped organize the Alpena County Dairy Improvement Association and served as its chairman for three years. He was a director of Thunder Bay petroleum cooperative for another 12 years.

Diamond has been active in Farm Bureau for nearly 30 years, and served as president of the Alpena County Farm Bureau on two different occasions; first from 1953 to 1956, and again in 1965 to 1966. He too served on the State Resolutions Committee and as a member of the State Board of Directors from 1952 to 1956.

In responding to remarks about him, Diamond said that "Farm Bureau people are a special kind . . . with high ideals and abilities to do things. I know that we face many problems with our 'transitional' agriculture, but I do not fear with Farm Bureau on the job . . ."

A service record as long as Farm Bureau in Michigan is old, was underscored in honoring Wilbur Smith's tenure on the board. Wilbur has participated in all phases of local, county and state Farm Bureau programs, President Smith said.

In calling Ward Hodge the "dean" of directors, Smith said that his 20 years on the Michigan Farm Bureau board have been filled with so many contributions that it would be impossible to list them all.

"Perhaps he is best remembered as the highly respected president of the Michigan Farm Bureau from 1954 to 1955, and as president of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative for five years," Smith said.

During his term of Farm Bureau service, he was also on the boards of all affiliated companies, and was one of the original 23 members who started the Direct-Delivery program of Farmers Petroleum.

In recounting Hodge's farming highlights, Smith told of the many years Ward served as Director of the American Dairy Association, and recalled "how proud we all were when his daughter, Mary Sue Hodge, was selected both state and national Dairy Princess."

Hodge has given many years as a director on the board of the American Dairy Association of Michigan, and as Association president for two terms.

His interest in youth has remained strong throughout the years, with special emphasis on Farm Bureau Young People. He was the "moderator" (as the position was called at one time) on his local school board for a span of years, and a member of the Sanilac County Board of Education and the Marlette school curriculum committee.

President Smith joked with Hodge about his early farming ventures involving "nine old ewes bought at an auction sale for $2.70 each" and how the resultant profitable sale was the beginning of a long and fruitful farming career.

"With his retirement, not only the members in District 6, whom he represented so well for 20 years, but also his fellow-members and friends on the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors, will feel a great loss, even as they look at his record of dedicated services as an inspiration for themselves," Smith said.

February 1, 1967
Counties Progress In Roll-Call Work

Last month's state-wide Farm Bureau membership total of nearly 30% of the state's goal of 57,600 family memberships, has soared to over 80% even though a handful of counties have no new-member drives underway. Although the total membership comparison with last year's report at this time is down, Roll-Call officials point to the later month-of-February new-member and clean-up drive as the major reason.

"Right now the basis of comparison is not the same as last year when the new-member drives were held in January," reports Larry Ewing, Manager of the Field Services Division. "But we wanted each county Farm Bureau to see exactly where it stood at this moment, and in relation with neighboring counties."

Ewing contends that the most important work that can be done by farmers is Roll-Call membership work. "The month of February is 'New Member Month' — the time when we have the job of inviting our neighbor to add their strength to Farm Bureau ...."

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MICHIGAN NETWORK — LEE MURRAY SHOW — 3, 5-Minute Programs Per Week, Mon. thru Fri.
FROM POLICY TO LAW — the route of a bill, and the hazards it faces before enactment into law, is explained by Dan Reed to this group of State and National Affairs committee members. Listening are (from left) Ralph Wolfin, Shiawassee; Adolph English, Oakland; Reed, Earl Maquardt, Eaton; Mrs. Frederick Dieck, Genesee and Robert DeClerg, Shiawassee.

FARM-LABOR among big issues in 74th Legislature

The constantly whirling political merry-go-round is rapidly picking up speed since the opening of the 74th Legislature on January 11, 1967. As it has often been before, it's a new cast of characters, a new plot, and the outcome remains to be seen.

As a result of the November election, the Legislature changed from Democratic control (nearly 2 to 1 in each house) to almost parity. The Republicans have a slight edge in the Senate (20-15) and the House is tied (55-55).

The Republicans are organizing the House, but it is obvious that any legislation that passes this year will require bipartisan support.

Farmers have much at stake this year, especially in farm labor matters. For instance, the admitted unsatisfactory agricultural section in the Workmen's Compensation Act will go into effect on May 1, 1967 unless it can be amended before that time. Any amendment will require immediate effect, which in turn requires a two-thirds vote in each house.

Since last July, Farm Bureau has been working on this extremely serious problem. Numerous meetings have been held with rating boards, Labor Department, Insurance Department, Legislators, Commissions and others in efforts to work out these problems on behalf of farmers and employers. A great deal of progress has been made in line with the resolution passed by the voting delegates.

It is expected that a bill will be introduced eliminating the compensation features of the law and returning the common law defenses to the farm employers, but requiring each farmer to carry medical and hospital insurance but requiring each farmer to carry medical and hospital insurance. Many questions need to be answered before full Workmen's Compensation could go into effect. They include: How could it be financed? Obviously, farmers could not bear the cost at present farm income levels. How many farm workers would be thrown out of work or find it impossible to find work due to pre-existing medical conditions? Is it practical to try to adapt industrial procedures to the agricultural situation?

Every farmer hiring any labor at all, full time or part time, needs to be concerned about this issue, as it will affect him in one way or another, and must make his concerns known to his Legislator as quickly as possible.

Farm Bureau will also push for several pieces of legislation that will be of particular help to the state's fruit and vegetable growers. This will include a bill to require payment to the grower within 30 days after delivery of his produce. Presently, some growers are waiting many months before receiving payment. Farm Bureau has secured such legislation in previous years for other farm commodities.

While the state's present law does not forbid discrimination by a processor against a fruit and vegetable grower who belongs to a cooperative bargaining association will also be pushed. While Farm Bureau is also sponsoring this legislation in Congress, similar problems are arising within the state and will require state legislation.

A third bill will require the posting of a price by a processor at the time of delivery of produce. Presently, processors often do not post prices for their produce, but also do not know what the price will be. Processors engaging in such a practice can demoralize the entire market by misleading their competition to think the produce is worth more than the price that will be paid to the producer.

Dozens of other issues supported by Farm Bureau will be crowded together on the front burner. Already Farm Bureau members are wending in petitions in support of legislation to prevent Michigan from being included under Double Daylight Saving Time. This legislation will require two-thirds vote and must be accomplished by mid-April.

Tax reform will be a major issue in the Legislature and Farm Bureau's program has a good chance of making further progress. In addition to the tax reform package, bills have already been introduced to require that farm land must be assessed as farm land so long as it is used for that purpose.

Another bill sets up an Agricultural Land Credit Fund as another means of preventing the overcrowding of agricultural land.

Yes, farmers have much at stake and probably, as in previous years, nearly every bill introduced will affect us in some manner — usually in the pocketbook.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY SAFETY CHAIRMAN, Mrs. Keith Houck, displays the slow-moving vehicle emblem which Farm Bureau Women throughout the state are promoting. A bill requiring the use of the standard emblem on all equipment with a maximum potential speed of 25 miles per hour was passed and goes into effect in April. Film-clips, starring Mrs. Eugene DeMots, Farm Bureau's state safety chairman, will be carried by most TV stations in early spring.

SOME TAX FACTS...

In any discussion of total tax reform for Michigan, it must be remembered that a great deal of progress has been made in this area during the past few years.

An important beginning step was the new Constitution, followed by new school-aid formulas, elimination of the tax on farm personal property, tax on the possession of fruit and Christmas trees, vines and similar farm property.

In reviewing the present tax situation — and possible changes in the Michigan tax structure — any consideration of tax reform may require a combination of taxes which result in each person paying his proper share of the costs of government.

Tax experts have examined a number of tax-reform changes, and computed what each might mean in terms of dollars saved or collected. For example, each one-cent reduction on property taxes represented a collection figure of $27 million dollars.

Other tax cuts and their present "collection figures" include:

- repeal the business activities tax — $10 million
- repeal the "intangibles" tax — $44 million
- exemption of sales tax on food and drugs — $129 million

Potential new revenues appear to lie heavily in the income tax field. Currently, 36 states have an individual income tax in some form at the state level. Two nearby states (Ohio and Indiana) are trying with the idea of a county income tax, with the money collected from employees at their place of work — but returned to the county of residence for use in supporting local government.

Potential income tax revenues include:

- for each one cent "flat rate" tax on individuals would amount to $135 million. The return would be only about $27 million if the exemptions were as high as $2,000 per taxpayer or each dependent.

Farmers have much at stake, if each one per cent income tax on corporations would yield $33 million.

- each one per cent income tax on financial institutions would yield $2.5 million.

While there are many tax changes to be considered in any tax reform package, those listed are considered to be major factors by the tax experts. Any juggling of these figures — based on the knowledge that statewide, Michigan had an equalized property valuation totaling a little more than $27 billion — will give an idea of what can be done within the financial framework of our state.

ARTHUR J. INGOLD

Arthur J. Ingold, prominent Louisville County farm leader, died December 29. He is best remembered for his leadership and vision in promoting Michigan's cooperative livestock marketing program, and for his many years of service as president of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives and the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives and the Michigan Livestock Improvement Association.

It was under his leadership that the Exchange enjoyed substantial growth in the development of new and better marketing and buying services. He also made many contributions to the Michigan 4-H Clubs program and served as a director of the Michigan Agricultural Council. He was a leader in the Michigan Sugar Beet Association, the Michigan Cattle Feeders Association and the Michigan Livestock Improvement Association.

In 1957, Ingold was awarded the Distinguished Service to Agriculture by the Michigan Farm Bureau in recognition of his outstanding service to the farm people of Michigan.
Much at Stake in 74th Legislature

The observation that farmers have much at stake in the 74th session of the Michigan legislature may well be the understatement of the year.

From the opening day of the session and introduction of a bill dealing with double-daylight savings time — to the flurry of bills which followed, it has been apparent that much of importance to Michigan farmers will occur in Lansing this year.

Many new faces among the lawmakers, a 55-55 standoff between Democrats and Republicans in the House of Representatives and a shift in majority control within the state Senate, make it more important than ever that farmers maintain close working relations with those who represent them.

An imposing list of 32 members of the Michigan House of Representatives and 13 members of the state Senate may be considered "new" faces, although the change involved a shifting of seats between a former member of the 1965-66 legislature to the Senate.

The fact that a total of 44 new members make up the current legislature, is a signal to farmers that this session will be greatly different from the last, and that they must be sensitive to discern these differences.

This page and the one adjoining, list all members of the Michigan legislature by district and party designation.

It is suggested that members may wish to remove this center section of the FARM NEWS for safekeeping and reference throughout the legislative session.

It is important, Farm Bureau officials feel, that members know their legislators on a first-hand basis. "There is no substitute for being acquainted with those who represent you," is the way a member of Farm Bureau's four-man team of Legislative Counsel put it recently.

These men, headed by Farm Bureau Secretary-Manager Dan Reidel, and including Robert Smith and Dale Sherrill, work full-time representing the interests of Michigan farmers in the legislature.

However, they point out that these efforts are greatly extended by the help of the alert farmer-members in the communities and counties of Michigan — "where the real strength in policy enactment lies."

## SENATORIAL DISTRICTS

### Michigan House of Representatives — listed by districts

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EIGHT February 1, 1967 MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
Official voting delegates from State Farm Bureaus adopted the 1967 national policies of the County and State Farm Bureaus and the American Farm Bureau Federation at the AFBF's 48th annual meeting Dec. 7-8 in Las Vegas.

State Farm Bureaus across the nation this month are launching an all-out effort to secure enactment of these policies. A comprehensive eight-point program, based on adopted policies, comprises the Farm Bureau's national legislative goal this year.

1. FARM PROGRAMS

Due to increasing domestic and world demand for agricultural products, farmers are now in position to earn increased incomes through production for export, and to work through prices for domestic market demand without government assistance.

We reaffirm our determinations to move to market price systems and to eliminate controls, restrictions, and the price depressing actions of the federal government.

Compensatory Payments

We oppose the use of compensatory payments as a substitute for market prices.

Marketing Food for Freedom

We shall continue to seek changes in the Food for Peace Act which will: (1) Provide greater assurance that this program may serve to permanently strengthen the economies of recipient nations. (2) Provide a means for the phasing out of financing on funds now being spent on price support and other subsidy payments which are an embarrassment because of this program and improved economic conditions in agriculture. (3) Provide greater assurance that the program will be operated to strengthen the competitive market-price system.

Multiple Price Plan

We oppose multiple price or certificate plans.

CCC Sales Policy

(a) CCC stocks of farm commodities other than red meats shall be sold at prices no less than the higher of 125 percent of the current loan value plus reasonable carrying charges, 85 percent of parity, or the market price; (b) The minimum sales price provisions shall apply to sales for food uses and to sales in the domestic market; (c) We also recommend that the use of CCC stocks for making certificate payments in kind be discontinued.

Dairy

(a) We recommend that present discriminatory support programs be terminated and that future price support levels be set in relation to market prices in recent years; (b) We are opposed to the sale or exchange of bases under federal marketing orders; (c) We are opposed to Class I base plans and recommend that State Farm Bureaus continue agressive information programs to warn farmers of the pitfalls and long-run implications of such plans.

2. SUPPLEMENTAL FINANCING THROUGH REA

We support a supplemental financing plan as an integral part of a farm telephone-bank pattern after the Farm Credit System and including the following features:

(1) A requirement that, to be eligible for bank loans, a cooperative must establish that it pays a minimum profit to the members in the categories of ownership stating each member's share in the net worth of the cooperative.

(2) A limit of total market expansion and of the number of new members and new classes of loans: (a) those made through the bank at the same rate of interest for all borrowers, and (b) those made by the Rural Electrification Administration.

(3) A requirement that generating loans be made only through the bank. We propose any plan or effort to convert rural electric cooperatives into a public power system.

6. GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND TAX POLICIES

Inflation

We are now in an inflationary situation which calls for a reduction in government spending.

Government Spending

Under present conditions of high economic activity a reduction in federal expenditures for non-defense purposes is imperative if inflationary trends are to be moderated.

Income Tax

In inflationary situations, steps to cut less essential non-defense expenditures should be given priority over proposals to increase taxes.

Sales Tax

We propose to increase local control of tax resources we recommend that taxpayers be given a federal credit for state sales tax.

4. LABOR

Compulsory Unionism

We support section 1 of the Taft-Hartley Act and vigorously oppose its repeal.

Settlement of Labor Disputes

The trend toward increased dependence on government to settle labor-management disputes works a destruction of the institution and practices of collective bargaining.

Strikes

Many kinds of strikes should be prohibited in the public interest, including the following:

(a) A strike by local, state, or federal governments; (b) A strike in agriculture during a critical period of production or harvesting;

(c) A strike to force modification of U.S. foreign policy or the enactment or non-enforcement of legislation.

(4) An industry-wide strike.

(5) A strike to compel an employer to employ unnecessary workers.

(6) An additional strike to support the strike of another industry.

(7) A strike against a regulated public utility.

5. LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT

Congress should approve a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the states the right to apportion one house of a bicameral legislature on the basis of factors other than population, such as geography or political subdivision boundaries.

6. FEDERAL LAND ACQUISITION

The federal private land ownership problem involved in federal condemnation proceedings often affords that relief in federal court seriously delays equitable settlement and is exceedingly expensive. We support the establishment of a civilian review board, independent of government agencies, to which property owners could appeal condemnation proceedings before final settlement.

7. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS

We support any effort to set up an international trade tribunal and to divide international Agricultural Markets through the use of international commodity agreements.

Government allocation of international markets and determination of prices would seriously restrict the American farmer's opportunity to expand markets and substantively reduce net farm incomes.

We insist that agriculture be allowed to operate in world markets without impairment by international commodity agreements. We vigorously oppose efforts to inhibit market expansion and to limit U.S. exports to a specified amount or a determined share based on some arbitrary base period politically determined in international negotiations.

Although much of the Congressional work of the American Farm Bureau Federation is expected to fall within the six-eight-year program, Farm Bureau's Washington legislative staff will continue working toward enactment of a long list of other policy objectives.

Among them are such things as a sound national fiscal policy including a balanced budget, opposition to broadening Social Security benefits, interpretation of Selective Service directives and promotion of an array of Farm Bureau created marketing programs.

From the beginning, Farm Bureau has worked to provide new opportunities for farmers to improve their incomes through strengthening the marketing system, both at home and abroad.

Actions of recent years have brought about the Farm Bureau Trade-Development Corporation and the American Agricultural Marketing Association. Both groups are aimed at helping state Farm Bureaus build more effective localized marketing programs.

At present there are 29 state Farm Bureau marketing associations affiliated with the AAMA — Michigan foremost among them. In addition, marketing research and market exploratory activities have become a major project of Farm Bureau.

Two significant approaches are being made toward bringing more farm income through marketing. First, Farm Bureau is aggressively promoting a trade-develop-ment program for the sale of farm products abroad, through the Rotterdam trade office. Overseas sales efforts must be closely coordinated with state "procurement" and sales programs through Farm Bureau.

Marketing must have a high priority at every Farm Bureau level. It is one of Farm Bureau's most important challenges.
RISING COSTS BOOST CAR INSURANCE RATES

The continued increase in costs of providing insurance services has necessitated a rate adjustment for automobile coverage, according to N. L. Vermillion, Administrative Vice President of the Farm Bureau Insurance Group. Applicable to most of the Companies' policyholders, the adjustment became effective shortly after the first of the year.

"Michigan's traffic accident picture, combined with rising expenses and costs of claim payments made on behalf of policyholders is responsible for the adjustment of premium rates," Vermillion stated.

Increased expenses are being encountered, for example, under the recently-revised County Office Service Agreements which are in effect between the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies and certain County Farm Bureau organizations. The Agreement, which provides remuneration for use of the County Office as a base of insurance operations, was recently revised to boost payments made to the local Farm Bureau. The Board of Directors voted to increase payments made by the Insurance Companies by approximately 50 percent, bringing the total amount paid to County Farm Bureau organizations to more than $150,000 annually.

Vermillion continued by citing examples which illustrate the rising cost of auto claims. "Insurance companies throughout Michigan are discovering they must increase insurance rates to pay the increasing financial losses. "The number of Michigan traffic accidents, for instance, has risen from 191,915 to 310,000 in the past ten years - a 61 percent increase. Hospital care expenses have increased 58 percent during the same period, rising from an average of $30 per day in 1957 to $41 per day during 1966. Then too, replacement costs for a front windshield, for instance, has risen from $24 to $45, or 91 percent in the past ten years."

"To illustrate our own experience," the insurance official added, "Farm Bureau Mutual's average auto loss payment per claim has risen from $102 to $172 in just the last three years. "The Farm Bureau Insurance Group will continue to provide the broadest possible auto insurance - at the lowest possible cost," Vermillion said. "Continued participation in the insurance program by Farm Bureau Members will maintain the social and financial strength befitting Michigan's largest and strongest farm organization and its affiliates."

Vermillion concluded.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

With a united effort, we can reduce the number of accidents (and the resulting costs), which drain away lives and dollars each day. Here are a few ways you can help:

1. Practice and promote personal safety. Any effort made by you and your family to reduce the human suffering and financial loss - will be a major contribution.
2. Encourage others to oppose unfair and dishonest property damage claims. Explain that claim payments come out of policyholders' pockets, including theirs.
3. Support public and private safety programs. Promote the use of seat belts, better roads and driver education in schools.
4. Discourage exaggerated liability claims for personal injuries sustained in an accident. Encourage others to award fair, but not excessive judgments when serving on a jury.

WORKMAN'S COMP. PROGRESS REPORT

May 1, 1967 is the date that Workmen's Compensation becomes a required part of most farmers' insurance programs.

Farm Bureau members have taken a strong position calling for changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act before the upcoming effective date.

Farm Bureau staff continues to present urgently needed changes to lawmakers. Farm Bureau Insurance agents will be prepared to offer members continued service and advice on these new and most critical areas of protection.

Joint effort and extensive activity have been underway by Farm Bureau Legislative and Insurance staffs. Interested lawmakers have provided encouragement for these efforts, however, no changes in the law will take effect until an amendment is passed by both houses of the Legislature.

The amendment which appears to have the most support would require all insured employers to be covered with the medical coverage outlined in the Workmen's Compensation Law, but would also make optional the other coverage now applicable to certain farm employees under the Act. The cost of this coverage is indicated to be in the area of $2.00 for each $100 of wages as against the present rate of $8.26. To be fully protected, farm liability coverage of $10,000 per accident will be required. This coverage is now available through Farm Bureau Insurance.

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 group 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 Shield 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 Shield 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 enrolling in Blue Cross and Blue Shield is March 20. For more information, contact your Farm Bureau County Secretary.
A GOOD LOCAL COOPERATIVE... BECOMES PART OF FARMS IT SERVES

By Don Kinsey

"I use my Co-op to help keep my Guernsey herd healthy and productive," comments Elton Smith, president of the Michigan Farmers Elevator Union at Caledonia. "In fact," he said, "the Caledonia Farmers Elevator is like an auto on an assembly line for my farm." President Smith went on to say that an aggressive, strong cooperative can help farmers make the necessary changes demanded of an efficient modern farm that faces a struggle with today's production costs.

The Caledonia Farmers Elevator has helped me to do that," he said, "and the story is the same for a lot of other farmers who have had a shift to modern practices.

"I needed new buildings for servicing my dairy program and other purposes. The pole building service program from the Co-op can be used at any time, you can send. The buildings could be put up fast and were economical. "I use the Co-op to get bulk fertilizer and lime spreading and bulk feed deliveries. I can get my certified seed there. They process certified wheat and oats. Their grain dryers help condition my corn and grain in harvest time, and I put grain into their grain bin. I can draw on it for feed during the year. Their field service man is a real asset. He helps me test and analyze my soil and conditions it for new cropping.

"It was through the cooperative that I first got the idea that cooperation could be had in many ways through Farm Bureau and decided to join other farmers in promoting our own interests."

The Caledonia Farmers Elevator has had a rather distinctive growth. It has grown somewhat like an auto on an assembly line -- a part at a time.

"Caledonia Farmers" was organized in June of 1918. Farmers put up capital of $50,000 to get the enterprise off the ground. They bought an elevator from Maudel Wilson that year, and a location on the railroad was purchased from the Caledonia Shippers Union.

In 1920, an elevator was purchased at Dutton to expand the services and to reach out into the farm community. This elevator is used today for grain handling and storage facilities. At the same time, services today center in the Caledonia main cooperative center.

Wanted -- a feed mill. So, Caledonia Farmers bought one from R. G. French and Sons. Why build when you can buy? Add another unit -- the B. F. White Lumber Company in 1939. The building service program began with this addition.

"Put it all together and it counts up to a lot of services available to farmers through this Caledonia Cooperative. The cooperative can store up to 60,000 bushels of grain. Two dumping pits make for fast handling. Two grain dryers can condition 4,000 bushels of grain a day. Farmers are offered a custom spreading service for bulk fertilizers and liquid nitrogen as well as field application of wood kiln chemicals. Farm delivery of bulk feeds or crimping of grain for specialty feed is on call.

"Caledonia Farmers" can clean and process seed wheat and oats. Five thousand bushels of certified wheat and three thousand bushels of certified oats are processed annually.

The first president, Jesse Pickett, was an enterprising seed man. He was well known in the area as the man who originated the Pickett shallow-dent corn. He also was a breeder of Ohio M15 hybrid corn. Pickett served as president of the cooperative for thirty-five years -- 1918 to 1951.

Howard King, Manager of Caledonia Farmers Elevator today, says that the cooperative offers a complete building service -- planning and materials for farm homes and buildings. And, yes, pole farm buildings have become a very popular item.

Then there's coal. That came when the cooperative bought out the lumber company's business. And, in this day of oil and gas heat, the cooperative still sells $25,000 worth of coal a year.

Caledonia Farmers Elevator was one of the charter members of the Michigan Elevator Exchange when this was a department of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Caledonia's officers attended the organization meeting in Lansing in 1920. It still markets grain through "M.E.E."

Caledonia Farmers is a farmer-owned business. There are about 500 stockholders. The age of the cooperative means that about 175 of the stockholders are retired farmers. But 325 of them are actively engaged in farming somewhere within a fifteen mile radius of the cooperative.

Elton Smith says, "Whether the successful farmers made the cooperative go, or whether the cooperative helped make the farmers successful, I don't know. It's like the old question of which came first, the hen or the egg?"

BUSINESS-MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

The Caledonia Farmers Elevator is one of twenty local cooperatives which operate under a business-agreement plan with Farm Bureau Services, Inc. Such agreements do not mean the surrender of the "independent status" of the local cooperative. Under the Farm Bureau business-agreement plan, the cooperative retains its board of directors and may retain its chosen manager. The local board is always consulted and has authority to determine final decisions regarding business operations. The agreement may be terminated by the local cooperative or by Farm Bureau Services within sixty days.

Many operations such as business records, payroll, patronage and tax accounting, monthly business statements and annual auditing are done by the Farm Bureau Services through the efficient use of modern business systems and methods. Farm Bureau Services may counsel with the local board and mutually initiate improvements and expansions to the plant and may help conduct programs to provide finances for such improvements.

These cooperatives, working under "agreements," are stockholder-members of the Farm Bureau Services.
from shaky start to solid service!

By Don Kinsey

The "Open House Program" at the Washtenaw Farmers Oil Company, coming on February 17 and 18, promises to be a good show. I asked Manager Ed Schmok what brought about the occasion for an Open House.

Ed said, "If you mean like Valentine's Day or some such thing — no special occasion. It just sort of happened. And we would like to show what the farmers of Washtenaw County have done by way of getting a cooperative started."

So, Ed has planned movies, radio broadcasts, special exhibits, free coffee and doughnuts — the whole works. And he hopes that visitors, especially farmers from around the county, drop in and see the show.

You could entitle a story of the Washtenaw Farmers Oil Company "How to Stretch a Shoestring". This oil cooperative ran on a shoestring for its first year of business. That was 1933. Business volume did not look like the ledger of the First National Bank. Cash taken in for the year — $1,000. Net earnings for the year — $50.12. But it was in the black!

Business didn't stay that way. Sales in the second year ran to $42,447. In 1933, the cooperative sold only gasoline and kerosene. Delivered with one small, four-compartment, 500 gallon tankwagon truck. Karl Schanz was tankwagon salesman then. He is still on the job, and says that there is quite a difference delivering fuel through a modern, metered electric pump and loading out fuel with a five-gallon bucket as he did "back then."

Jennings Campbell, long-time Farm Bureau member from Ypsilanti, was the first president of the cooperative. He can tell you why the effort was made to serve farmers over the whole county. Our 'yardstick' began in 1933, stockholder patrons have realized close to $400,000 at their share of the earnings in the venture. These stockholder patrons are Washtenaw farmers.

Manager Ed Schmok says "Our business hasn't quit growing. We serve farmers over the whole county, but we want to show everybody that we are in tune with the times at Washtenaw Farmers Oil Company. That, too, is part of the idea of the 'Open House'".

The original bulk plant of Washtenaw Farmers Oil Company was located in Ypsilanti. I can remember a sort of one horse gas station in the town back in the thirties.

Now, the cooperative has a modern bulk plant on Carpenter Road between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. These facilities were completed in 1957. Handled are tires, batteries, oils and greases.

SINCE 1933 — Karl Schanz (left) has been tankwagon driver. He visits with Jennings Campbell (center) first president of the Washtenaw Farmers Oil company. Ed Schmok, Manager, (right) indicates how top quality control in lube-oils has led to sound business growth.
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS

COMMUNITY SERVICE INSURANCE COMPANY

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Community Service Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 4000 North Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, on Monday, February 20, 1967, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:

1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: February 1, 1967
N. L. VERMILION
Secretary

KENNETH BULL
President

FARM BUREAU LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 4000 North Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 21, 1967, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:

1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: February 1, 1967
N. L. VERMILION
Secretary

DAVID MORRIS
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office in Lansing.

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

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

10 FARM FOR SALE

FARM FOR SALE. 150 acres of good farmland. Four miles south of Gladwin. Excellent location for dairy or general farming. For information, write FHA, Box 652, Gladwin, Michigan 48624.

20 LIVESTOCK

WANTED TO BUY: WANTED: breeder purebred Holstein heifers, 800 lbs., or bred heifers, 800 Ibs. 100 head. Also, bred to St. Genevieve, or a known high milk producing bull. 

26 POULTRY

POULTRYMEN—Use Perfect Balancer, you can feed your pullets now and bring in more profits. All types of feeds for pullets, layers and growers. Perfect Balancer at your elevator. The DeKalk profit pullet. Accepted by all on DHIA test program. Can anyone offer you higher profits on pullets with perfect balance? Check the value you get in DeKalk profit pullet. KLAGER HATCHERIES, Bridgeport, Michigan. Phone OR 6-1090.

35 WOMEN

FREE GIFT FROM OLD MEXICO with any purchase of 100 dollars. Fax Dubin, 3512 C Street, Dallas, Texas 75205.

36 MISCELLANEOUS

ILLUSTRATED WHOLESALE CATA-

LOG: Imported Horse Fly, Meshcella Sample included. Imports, 2050 West Liberty, Pennsylvania 15230.

SLEIGH BELLS. Write or phone for de-

scription. Al Jensen, Little Falls, Minnesota.

FARMERS:

Check the value you get in Gelatin Bone Perfect Balancer, the mineral feed of champions.

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MINERAL RIGHTS in the LEGISLATIVE MAZE

This is an informational topic in two spheres. We will explore the subject of mineral rights and at the same time picture the tortuous path that a legislative bill follows in gaining passage.

Every proposed legislative bill has to run a "tough gauntlet" to become a law. Along the way there are check-points and pressure-points, hitches, side-tracks, traps and pigeonholes.

The many hurdles in the path of a legislative bill have a purpose. They are placed there to make it a bit difficult to pass a law. If there were little difficulty there would be laws passed by the thousands to please every Tom, Dick and Harry. But the roadblocks mean that real work is necessary to get a bill passed. And often, after a lot of work on a bill, it winds up in a blind alley.

A good case of this sort was Senate bill 975 of 1966 in the Michigan Legislature. In 1963 a Public Act was passed which provided for the transfer of the ownership rights for oil and gas deposits to owners of the surface rights on the property under certain conditions. Senate bill 975 of 1966 would have extended the same conditions to all minerals (gravel, metals, limestone, gypsum, etc.).

But after running the gauntlet of the many steps from House to House in the Legislature, "S 975" died in the Conference Committee—a very late step in the legislative system.

A look at the complicated rules and practices, the tortuous path a bill must take to gain passage, shows why Farm Bureau feels that it is important to have men who work full-time in the Legislature. A description of the procedures and a diagram of them similar to that printed above, is provided in the Discussion Leaders Letter for the Community Discussion Groups this month.

In their resolution for 1967, Farm Bureau delegates counsel our members to become familiar with the legislation of 1963 and the proposal of 1966 dealing with the ownership of mineral rights on property.

We can accomplish some of this in our group discussion this month.

Whatever the "deal" for property, it is well to have a good lawyer review the contract of purchase and ascertain the title of the property. This becomes especially important where part or all of the mineral rights are (or have been) reserved by the seller.

The term "ownership of property" is actually a very loose term, and has some limiting strings tied to it. It becomes confused also because people purchase properties under various conditions of agreement.

In spite of our jealous defense of our "private rights of ownership" over the property, does the property owner own the "absolute" sense. Basically, what we purchase is a right to the "private use" of the property.

The test of this point comes when the government submits a tax bill to the owner. If the taxes remain unpaid, the government can step in, foreclose, and take over the property on a tax lien. Or the government may condemn the property and convert it to public use—"in the public interest." So, the kind of ownership that you enjoy in your property is always subject to the provisions of the law.

Persons often purchase properties in which part or all of the ownership rights to minerals under the mineral rights may sell or lease them to another surface are reserved to the seller. Such holders of the mineral rights may sell or lease them to another party. They may be passed along in estates, inherited by heirs or sold for settlement of estates.

When the State of Michigan sells a tract of state land to private parties, the rights to all minerals under the surface are reserved as public property—again, "in the public interest." Numerous attempts have been made to provide that landowners should gain possession of these rights after a period of ownership—but to no avail. The State keeps a tight grip on such mineral rights.

Purchasers who buy property where mineral rights are reserved by the seller know that their purchase gives them no claim to those mineral rights. But some landowners feel that, as long as someone else holds the mineral rights, the landowner himself is sitting on top of insecurity. They would like to see the ownership title become whole and complete for them—and remove the source of worry.

Their feeling of insecurity has some foundation in fact. Confusions of title to the property develop where ownership rights are passed from generation to generation, from estate to estate or change hands through a number of sales transactions. Titles to the property often become clouded. Conflicting claims may make the value of a piece of property very insecure.

It is for these reasons that the Michigan Farm Bureau delegates have taken the following policy stand since November of 1962. The delegates have said:

"The widespread custom of reserving or selling portions of the mineral rights appertaining to descriptions of property results in costly confusions of title and the loss of potential tax revenue."

"We support legislation which will maintain current records of ownership of such rights, will obtain some revenue, and will tend to return ownership of such separated rights to the landowner."

"We recommend that the owner of the separated rights be required to file a certificate of ownership at regular intervals and pay a registration fee. If the registration fee has become delinquent, the mineral rights should return to the owner of the land. State-held mineral rights should revert to private owners after the land has been in private ownership for ten years."

The Legislature took action on this idea in 1963, as it applies to oil and gas deposits. A law was passed providing that where oil and gas ownership rights have lain dormant for twenty years (where no production or drilling permit has been issued, where rights have not been sold, leased, mortgaged or transferred in ownership)—that—

Twenty years after the last such transaction, the rights shall be regarded as abandoned unless the owner maintains a written record of his claim of interest in the office of the register of deeds in the county where the claim is located.

Filing in this manner would protect the claim of interest for another twenty-year period, as would production or legal transaction involving the rights.

But the mineral rights owned by the government were not surrendered by the Legislature. And these provisions for reverting oil and gas rights to landowners have not yet been extended to other minerals.

A new bill to this effect would have to run the long legislative gauntlet all over again in the 1967 session.

Farm Bureau's obligation under its policy resolution is clear. But Farm Bureau's obligation to its various members may be clouded by the fact that there are Farm Bureau members on both sides of the fence. Some have sold farm lands but have reserved mineral rights at the time of sale. Others have bought farm lands on which the mineral rights have been reserved by the seller. There can be a difference in what these members would like Farm Bureau to do.
4 BIG REASONS WHY MICHIGAN FARMERS USE THE "PROFIT PARTNERS"

1. Higher yields from Farm Bureau fertilizers and Certified Seed Corn.
2. Their crops mature at the earlier date.
3. Farm Bureau fertilizers, whether bagged or bulk, flow more freely, thus eliminating problems in the field.
4. Produced in our Saginaw and Kalamazoo plants, our fertilizer is quality controlled throughout its manufacturing process, to assure you of getting the most for your money.

THE BEHRENWALDS SAY:

"Farm Bureau's Special Corn Starter and Northrup King's KE 497 Corn proved to be the right combination for us. Corn Starter gets our young plants off to a healthier start and keeps them growing throughout the season.

"Despite not being able to plant as early as we would have liked, it appears our corn crop is the best in many years. This field was planted using Special Corn Starter beside the row and 40% with the seed in a pop-up. The rows are planted 30 inches apart with approximately 25,000 plants per acre. It was sprayed with 2 1/4% of Atrazine and never cultivated."

"I used 1.5 lb. Atrazine and 1.5 pounds Lorcra for weed and grass control, applied in a 10 inch band over the row. There are no weeds or grass in my corn fields.

"On Sept. 21st, the yield check showed good results. The yield was 105.2 bushels of dry shelled corn per acre. The moisture content was 33.4% at the time of checking and the test weight was 52.5.

"Even with these fine results, you must remember this crop was grown under drought conditions. In light of that, I am satisfied with this very good yield."

HUGO HETZNER SAYS:

"On May 23rd, I planted Northrup King KE 497 corn and at the same time applied 500 pounds of Farm Bureau Special Corn Starter Fertilizer in the row. The rows were 34 inches apart.

"I used 1.5 lb. Atrazine and 1.5 pounds Lorcra for weed and grass control, applied in a 10 inch band over the row. There are no weeds or grass in my corn fields.

"On Sept. 21st, the yield check showed good results. The yield was 105.2 bushels of dry shelled corn per acre. The moisture content was 33.4% at the time of checking and the test weight was 52.5.

"Even with these fine results, you must remember this crop was grown under drought conditions. In light of that, I am satisfied with this very good yield."

FARM BUREAU
Services INC.

4000 NORTH GRAND RIVER AVE., LANSING, MICH.

Farm Bureau Services is a major component of the Michigan Farm Bureau... JOIN NOW!
What Does Farm Bureau Mean to Me?

"Good Insurance, for one thing!"

Larry Silsby of Ingham County has been a member of the Michigan Farm Bureau for seven years. Why? Because he's convinced the organization can do more to help agriculture than all others combined. And because, in his own words, "Farm Bureau has an excellent insurance program."

The Silsby family owns a 560-acre diversified operation near Mason. Larry is a member of the Ingham County Farm Bureau Board and was recently designated Outstanding Young Farmer by the Lansing Jaycees. His family, his farm, his vehicles and his business partnership are all insured by Farm Bureau. "We've always had excellent service," he states, "We're very satisfied with Farm Bureau Insurance."

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

"Michigan Farm Bureau is on the move. Make sure you join in 1967."