It is becoming obvious that Michigan's youthful Farm Bureau members take seriously the theme of a recent Young Farmer program — "Participation, Key to Action."

Their effective participation in all phases of Farm Bureau work is sparking action in many parts of the state — in Young Farmer Community groups and in county-wide Young Farmer programs.

A group of 65 youthful Farm Bureau leaders met recently in Saginaw for a three-day Young Farmer training conference, based on the "Participation — Key to Action" theme.

Speakers included three representatives of Michigan Farm Bureau: Elton R. Smith, president; Dan Reed, secretary-manager; and Dale Sherwin, legislative counsel. Jack Angell, director of Broadcast Services, American Farm Bureau Federation; and Earl J. Hill, public relations, Consumers Power Company.

Two-fold purpose of the meeting was to point out major objectives of Young Farmer activities in Michigan, and to encourage greater participation among young farmers in Michigan Farm Bureau. With a state-wide membership of more than 52,000 families, the organization includes several thousand young farmers.

The conference was conducted by the Young Farmer committee of MFB, and Larry Karsten of Presque Isle county was general chairman.

During the sessions, participants indicated interest in learning more about the history, philosophy and organizational structure of Farm Bureau. Classes were devoted to discussion of these topics, along with others on marketing and political education.

In response to the question, "What do you think the objectives of Farm Bureau should be in the years ahead?" these answers were given:

Serve the needs of Farm Bureau members, whatever they are, such as marketing, information, policy development, benefits to members; betterment of farming; improvement of farm economics, with emphasis on political and governmental issues; provide leadership in agriculture, keeping farmers active and programs in tune with changing times and conditions;

Development of more organized marketing programs; supply a good legislative voice; accept a leadership role in prices paid to farmers; offer farmers their "best deal" in the supplies they buy; be active in community service and local affairs;

Create member loyalty and discipline; member education, involvement and action; change some farm products through research, promotion and legislation; educate farmers regarding the quality demanded by consumers; provide public information; recognize need for adequate staff, both in quality and quantity.

Another question, "What services do you expect from Farm Bureau in the future that you are not now receiving?" brought these responses:

A Credit Union, more direct buying of supplies, better service in petroleum supplies, a new approach to the women's program, improve labor procurement and fringe benefits, expand research and promotion for commodities, better market information, cooperative purchasing, employer education, soil testing and protein analysis of feeds.

Member discounts, leasing of equipment — perhaps on seasonal basis, group purchasing and application of spray materials, "hot line" market information, feed contracts and use of futures market.

Answers to a third question, "What do you expect of a Farm Bureau marketing program?" included:

Bargaining power, including stabilization of the market, and protection of the farmer's interest; market development and maintenance; build loyalty in growers; reasonable profit for producer and processors; highest price with least involvement to the farmer; and keeping ahead of competition.
Editorial

What makes it run? What makes it hum?

"The Centipede was happy quite
Until a toad in fun
Said, 'Pray, which leg goes after which?'
That worked her mind to such a pitch
She lay distracted in a ditch,
Considering how to run..."

(Finalane Poems - 1871)

How does Farm Bureau run where you live? Who puts the "legs" under programs of your county Farm Bureau?

Are there many people involved in many local areas of Farm Bureau action, doing important jobs with local impact for members in terms of their lives and incomes?

Or are there only a few people involved in a modest program aimed mostly at putting together a few suggestions at the annual meeting for things to be done by the Michigan or American Farm Bureau in Lansing and Washington?

Last year, county Farm Bureaus submitted 579 recommendations for state policies to the Michigan Farm Bureau. They submitted another 329 recommendations for national policies.

They wrote only 27 local policy action resolutions calling for work to be done at home, by themselves!

If a county Farm Bureau does not have a well-defined program of work for itself, if it involves only a few of the same people doing a few important jobs that it continues to ignore local problems and projects of importance to its members — sometime it will get into trouble.

That's when someone comes along (as much as the toad in your verse) and asks the tricky question about how Farm Bureau is going to solve this problem for its members, or handle that problem that members want done. It is at this point that the organizational strength of a county Farm Bureau is tested.

Such questions remind us that voluntary organizations such as Farm Bureau don't really run themselves, although for various reasons from time-to-time, they may appear to do so.

The best kind of voluntary organization is one which dashes along toward well defined local goals on a thousand hidden membership legs, each working in unison with the others.

A good, strong, county Farm Bureau, is built of more than legwork, for it is well "armed" as a "army" providing the group strength necessary to group action.

It has been said that a county Farm Bureau cannot be stopped or killed, only slowed down and there has been considerable evidence gathered over a half-century to back that statement. Voluntary organizations, such as Farm Bureau, are very much a different kind of creature.

County Farm Bureaus are weakest when they are run by only a few "stemwinders" who fill most of the offices and do most of the jobs. They are made weaker every time they fail to develop their own membership-muscle by shipping a problem off to Lansing or Washington to be solved.

We must not forget that a county Farm Bureau has only as much "life" as there are lives in it. Such people, if they ignore important jobs to do, the authority and budget to do them, and freedom to get the job done in their own fashion, will make a county Farm Bureau thin.

Then, the very fact of a decentralized authority gives Farm Bureau an unkillable strength... when a truly organized Farm Bureau operates so smoothly that nothing can hitch it — when it seems to run by itself!

M.W.

LOCAL POWER

Farm Bureau was originated in the local communities to solve local problems. It seems that the formation of the Michigan Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau came more or less from the same idea.

Some of the early areas of work for Farm Bureau included finding better farming methods, building better roads and better schools, and creating better means for marketing the produce of the farm.

Waukegan County Farm Bureau directors recently had an opportunity to examine the minutes of their early meetings and found that many of the first committees were appointed to find better ways to market farm produce. Other committees were selected to assist the new county agent in finding permanent quarters and getting furnishings for it.

It's interesting to note that many of the early Farm Bureaus spent much of their funds and efforts helping arrange for the farm agents with their new ways of doing things. Support of the Cooperative Extension movement has been one of our continuing programs from the time of our formation.

As our resources have broadened in Farm Bureau, we have placed much emphasis on state and national programs, sometimes to the detriment of local programs. Not that we deliberately cut back the local effort, but because we became so involved in the others we tended to forget the local problems. Possibly this has happened because we at Michigan Farm Bureau have not placed enough emphasis on the local problems that we should have.

Whatever the reason for the let-up in local Farm Bureau efforts, we have called for our last annual meeting called for renewed strength in these local, to-home-problems. They called for the formation of Local Affairs Committees by county Farm Bureau to help an active committee on local affairs, whatever you may call it.

When we examine the records of some of these Local Affairs Committees, we find positive attitudes expressed by the participants. They had organized to do something about certain local problems and there was less complaining reflected in the minutes, rather the minutes reflected a determination to do something to correct the problems facing them.

There are still many farmers who wish to get our attention at right in our towns and counties.

At last year's annual meeting in our counties we were faced with some local problems. I wonder how many of these we have actively worked on since then? When we meet again, we wonder how many of these problems will still be on the minds of the members, can we report to members that local Farm Bureau helped to solve?

From time to time we hear of committees actively working on one of these problems which members have been unable to solve alone. One case which comes to mind is the effort of the Losco County Farm Bureau to correct land assessments which they considered to be incorrect.

Last reports indicated that they have been in touch in getting a 10 per cent across-the-board reduction in agricultural land assessments — more in some communities.

With the resolutions committees beginning meetings before very many weeks, it would be well for us to get such problems before them while they are in our home area which could be handled rather easily now but which may become a major problem later on, to grow and get worse.

Community groups can play an important part in this process of finding potential problems before they really get going. Alert community groups can be of great help in curing these problems also.

The big thing for the younger generation we want to be involved. We in Farm Bureau have been involved for over fifty years, there seem to be plenty of opportunities for us to be involved for another fifty — and in something truly useful, our own community welfare.
1968 Farm Program Bill is Introduced by Vander Jagt

Representative Guy Vander Jagt - U. S. Congressman from Michigan's 8th District, has introduced the first major Farm program bill of 1968 in the House of Representatives, which closely follows Farm Bureau recommendations, and which in Vander Jagt's own words, should "return farming to farmers again.

The new bill (H.R. 17036) - he said, "will permit the market to operate and will enable producers of wheat, feed grains and soybeans to get their income in the market place".

Washington observers pointed to the apparent bipartisan support for legislation to permit the market system to work more effectively for wheat, feed grains and soybeans.

It was noted that the Vander Jagt bill, introduced by a western-Michigan Republican, whose district contains large and important farmland areas, is very similar to a bill (S.3156) introduced in the Senate in March, by Senator Abraham Ribicoff, Connecticut Democrat who frequently speaks with the voice of big city labor and industry.

Vander Jagt's bill is titled the "Wheat and Feed Grains Act of 1968" and contains specific provisions for cropREAD complaints and crop disaster programs and makes certain that soybeans are eligible for recourse programs and makes certain that soybeans are eligible for recourse Adjustment Program would be extended through 1972 and would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to use the "all system to encourage the retirement of whole farms.

The bill would repeal authority for acreage allotments, marketing quotas, marketing certificates, distribution of payments and price support payments on wheat, "base" acreages, diversion payments and other payments on feed grains; and price supports on soybeans.

In speaking of his bill, Vander Jagt observed that the burden-some surplus of wheat and feed grains of years past have been largely eliminated, and that the climate is right for a strong move to be made toward removing restraining controls on some farm products.

This "much-improved situation is due to a combination of factors, including recently granted - an act grains, greatly expanded commercial exports and food shipments to meet needs and to foster economic growth in developing nations of the world" Vander Jagt said.

"There is no need for a 'supplement to give the young people an opportunity to evaluate the messages delivered by the speakers."

In addition, following Mr. Braze's presentation, they will have an opportunity to participate in mock primary elections, county political conventions, a political debate, and to hold a general election. These activities are designed to give the young people practical experience in the field of politics.

Mr. Braze, a Michigan native, is a graduate of Albion college and the University of Michigan in 1922. He was a state senator, served for many years as state treasurer, and was a delegate to the Republican national convention. He has conducted numerous workshops on local government, and serves on the board of directors of the Illinois 4-H foundation, director of the Illinois Recreation commission, and in other similar posts. He and his wife are the parents of three children.

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FOUR
June 1, 1968

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

LEGIS-LATE-NOTES

MEAT INSPECTION

Meat inspection is again becoming a serious legislative problem. As this is written, both the House and Senate have included language in an appropriation bill which, if not removed, will prevent Michigan from entering into an agreement with the Federal Meat Inspection Program.

USDA has now approved Michigan's Meat Inspection Program and was notified funds up to 90 percent next year. The Legislature, on the other hand, is becoming wary of similar federal programs, as the cost often continues to rise and the state must retain the right to control the program. However, if Michigan meat is to become fully acceptable to the market and be permitted to cross state lines, it will require a cooperative program with USDA. The meat inspection program passed by Congress and which becomes fully effective in 1970.

At the moment, livestock farmers and the entire meat industry are anxious to know whether there is any prospect near the 1967 figures for the July-August period shows another "bin-busting" harvest time - particularly when the current price of about $1.12 to $1.14 per bushel.

One Detroit paper, with a kill of 2,000,000 per week, is only running at half capacity because he has lost much of his market. It is also claimed that many coast buyers are demanding meat be marked with the USDA inspection stamp.

One packer with a kill capacity of 2,000 head per week is operating at half capacity because he has lost most of his market. It is also claimed that many Coast buyers are demanding meat be marked with the USDA inspection stamp.

If the Legislature removes the restrictive language in the bill, it will mean that Michigan meat packers could qualify under the federal Tekrude-Aiken Act and use the USDA inspection stamp even though the actual inspection is carried out under Michigan's own standards and guidelines. It will also give them at least 18 months to meet other requirements.

Farm Bureau is working to help find a solution. While it may seem simple, it is in reality most difficult because meat inspection is a touchy legislative area for many political and other reasons.

MARKETING

The price announcement bill, H. 2702, died in the Senate Committee on Agriculture. It would have provided for a billiard with seed and fertilizer, and would have included other provisions.

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PAST PRESIDENTS — of Tuscola County Farm Bureau were on hand with current President Leon Keinath to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the organization's celebration, and to reminisce about the challenges of earlier years. Left to right, back row, are President Keinath, Lyle Sylvester, president in 1962-63; Bruce Ruggles, 1958-60; front row, left to right, John Graham, 1965-67; Alfred Goodall, 1963-65; Clifton Lotter, 1960-62; and Fred Bach, 1955-58.

"Liaison" — according to Webster's dictionary, implies a close bond or connection — intercommunications and a form of inter-relationship as within a close-knit family. Such words could certainly describe the ideal climate in which the Farm Bureau "family" — the Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliate companies, should operate.

To assure that such is the fact, Farm Bureau Services, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) and the parent Michigan Farm Bureau, take time out now and then to work hard at the important job of inter-finally liaison.

State and regional Liaison Committees have been in active operation since 1932. The state committee presently includes eight representatives of the Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliate companies, and meets on the mornings of the second Friday of every month at Farm Bureau Center, Lansing.

In the afternoon of the same day, Regional committees meet in four locations throughout the state. Each regional meeting is attended by field representatives of each company and by one state committee representative in a rotating assignment basis. For the past two years, this on-going dialogue between representatives of all parts of Farm Bureau, has been supplemented by a state-wide "Liaison Rally."

New products, new projects, new problems, all are reviewed and examined. At a typical session, a membership status report is likely to be followed by a discussion of how all parts of Farm Bureau can work toward filling membership goals.

Program time-tables are compared, conflicts or duplication of effort avoided. Most importantly, programs and projects become interpreted in terms of people — the people who operate the programs and plan the projects; and as these people become acquainted and better understand each other, the program efforts are mutually strengthened.

Winter's worst snowstorm delayed, but could not defeat, the celebration of Tuscola County Farm Bureau's 50th anniversary. The birthday party honored organizers and workers of the last five decades.

Originally scheduled for March 23 by the Board of Directors, a severe storm forced postponement of the event for another month.

Seven past county presidents, representing a span of 22 years, gathered at the Farm Bureau Center, discussions of the second Friday of every month, to examine achievements during their terms of office. Elton R. Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau president, reviewed highlights of the Michigan and Tuscola Farm Bureaus. He commended the county for its outstanding leadership and excellent programs.

Arrangements for the observance were made by Mrs. Clare Carpenter, Information chairman, and head of the 50th anniversary program, Mrs. Fred Boyne, Women's group; Leon Keinath, county president; and Alfred Goodall, a past president. Special guests were State Treasurer Allan Green and Mrs. Green. Mr. Green was secretary-treasurer of the county board of directors for 10 years.

Fred Reimer of Hule, regional representative in the Thumb area in the 1930's, spoke briefly. Guests included residents of neighboring counties and former members and staff.

A congratulatory message from Charles B. Shuman, American Farm Bureau president, stated: "It is a great day for Tuscola County Farm families in the United States if they work through their Farm Bureau organisation to solve their many problems."

A 50-year history of Tuscola Farm Bureau, compiled by Mrs. Carpenter, includes details on how the bureau came to be, how it serves the members, and why it remains the major farm organization. The 57-page booklet was distributed to all members at the rally.

"The employed representatives of the Michigan Farm Bureau and all of its affiliated service companies represent Farm Bureau in general when contacting members around the state, and the public at large. Uninformed or misinformed employees or agents may contribute to a poor or weak image of Farm Bureau, either in answers given to questions or statements made to other people. Information, when given, is given not only to the customer, but to his own family. A lack of information shows a weak interest in the work of Farm Bureau generally when important decisions are made.

"We feel that all persons, employees or agents representing Farm Bureau and all of its affiliates who contact people in the field should be given intensive and regular orientation concerning philosophy, programs, services and operations of Farm Bureau and all other affiliates.

"Much progress has been made, evidenced by a much greater interest of the cooperative member in what his Farm Bureau is doing for his personal welfare. However, since there are many new programs and new employees there is still need for continued effort to improve orientation and help our employees.

"We feel that organization-wide meetings to orient and enhance personnel would be worth the time and expense involved by all companies, and we request that managers of the Farm Bureau and all affiliated companies plan to hold joint meetings designed to present a well-grounded and united front by all personnel all the time.

1965 Policies, Michigan Farm Bureau

ORIENTATION OF EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS

Here is what the voting delegates had to say at the most recent annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau and all affiliated service organizations:

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President Johnson Invited to Michigan

President Lyndon B. Johnson has been invited to deliver the welcoming address at U.S.A. Day during the 12th Triennial conference of the Associated Country Women of the World. President Johnson will speak to more than 5,000 visitors from many different countries at noon luncheon on the Michigan State University campus in East Lansing, Thursday, September 5.

The day's program is open to anyone who makes reservations before July 1. Sessions will be held in Jenison fieldhouse, beginning at 10 a.m. Registration for the day, including two meals, is $8.75. Registration and the noon meal only is available for $4.25.

Greetings from the United States and India, home of the ACWW president, will open the day's activities. Announcements of exhibits will be followed by naming of needlework and essay contest winners.

Main address will be delivered during the morning session by Dr. Earl Butz, Dean of Purdue University, Indiana. Entertainment will be provided by a 100-voice chorus of 4-H members, a big-name band, and the Koshare Indian dancers.

According to committee members, there will be time to mingle with international friends representing more than 50 countries. Visitors from abroad are being asked to wear their native costumes on this special occasion. Events will conclude about 10 p.m.

Each county Farm Bureau Women's committee chairman is requested to select a committee to arrange for transportation of guests to East Lansing on U.S.A. Day. Several counties have already made arrangements for buses or vans to attend this unique observance.

Individuals making reservations must send a check, payable to Michigan State University, and addressed to USA Day, 103 Home Economics building, MSU, East Lansing, Mich., 48823.

A stamped, self-addressed envelope must be included for return of meal tickets. Deadline is July 1, and early registration is urged.

KARKER SCHOLARSHIP

Miss Helen Atwood, coordinator of women's activities for Michigan Farm Bureau, reminded county Farm Bureaus and Women's committees of the July 1 deadline for meeting the Marje Karker scholarship fund minimum goal of $8,000. Currently about $7,000 has been reported.

"We fully expect to exceed our goal, through current fund-raising activities, by the July 1 deadline," Miss Atwood said. Interest earned by the money provided yearly scholarship to a student in agriculture, nursing, veterinary medicine, or teaching.

President Johnson

Announcements Day. Several counties have university campus in East Lansing, Thursday, September 5.

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The day's program is open to anyone who makes reservations before July 1. Sessions will be held in Jenison fieldhouse, beginning at 10 a.m. Registration for the day, including two meals, is $8.75. Registration and the noon meal only is available for $4.25.

Greetings from the United States and India, home of the ACWW president, will open the day's activities. Announcements of exhibits will be followed by naming of needlework and essay contest winners.

Main address will be delivered during the morning session by Dr. Earl Butz, Dean of Purdue University, Indiana. Entertainment will be provided by a 100-voice chorus of 4-H members, a big-name band, and the Koshare Indian dancers.

According to committee members, there will be time to mingle with international friends representing more than 50 countries. Visitors from abroad are being asked to wear their native costumes on this special occasion. Events will conclude about 10 p.m.

Each county Farm Bureau Women's committee chairman is requested to select a committee to arrange for transportation of guests to East Lansing on U.S.A. Day. Several counties have already made arrangements for buses or vans to attend this unique observance.

Individuals making reservations must send a check, payable to Michigan State University, and addressed to USA Day, 103 Home Economics building, MSU, East Lansing, Mich., 48823.

A stamped, self-addressed envelope must be included for return of meal tickets. Deadline is July 1, and early registration is urged.

KARKER SCHOLARSHIP

Miss Helen Atwood, coordinator of women's activities for Michigan Farm Bureau, reminded county Farm Bureaus and Women's committees of the July 1 deadline for meeting the Marje Karker scholarship fund minimum goal of $8,000. Currently about $7,000 has been reported.

"We fully expect to exceed our goal, through current fund-raising activities, by the July 1 deadline," Miss Atwood said. Interest earned by the money provided yearly scholarship to a student in agriculture, nursing, veterinary medicine, or teaching.

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Dial direct and let the savings roll in.

If you'd like to save some money, you'll be interested in Direct Distance Dialing. It's a more economical way to call Long Distance because direct dial calls are all Station-to-Station instead of Person-to-Person.

It's easy, too. Just dial "1", then the Area Code, if it's different from your own, and the number you want. For an idea of how much you can save, here's an example. A 3-minute Person-to-Person call between Detroit and Chicago costs $1.30 at the day rate. Dial direct and the cost is only 85¢.

So whenever you're reasonably sure the party you're calling will be there, dial direct and let the savings roll in!

HERITAGE SUMMER TOURS

Hawaii
3 departures — June 15, Aug. 3 & Oct. 26
2 week tours visiting Oahu, Kauai, Maui and Hawaii.
Complete Sightseeing and many meals
Cost from Lansing $895.99

European Vacation
Leaves July 22, returns August 12
Visit Spain, Majorca, France, Italy, Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, England and Ireland. A truly wonderful and unusual itinerary conducted by Mrs. Mary Catherine Sample.
Cost from Detroit Metro $907.50

Hemisfair '68
3 departures — June 14, July 14 & Aug. 18
Fly to Houston for full week Texas Tour visiting Houston, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, and Hemisfair '68 at San Antonio.

Canadian Rockies
Leaves Aug. 8, returns Aug. 21
Visit Jasper, Columbia Icefields, Lake Louise, Banff and Glacier National Park.

Alaska
Leaves July 27, returns August 11
Air to Vancouver. Castle Inside Passage to Skagway, rail to Seattle and Anchorage. Many additional tours are being planned and will be announced at a later date.
Cost from Lansing $1,000.94

A Quality Building — for the Professional Farmer!

Please send the new DAVCO brochure

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by Margaret C. McCall

Does your community need new medical facilities? How's the library service to residents of your area? What curriculum is being offered in your local schools? How many parks are located in your county, and who pays for them? These are local affairs — are you one of the concerned citizens who are asking these questions, and getting involved in finding decisions on these, and countless other local issues, are being made by interested individuals and groups in your community. Is the Farm Bureau policy — and the Farm Bureau philosophy — reflected in these decisions? It should be, and plans are now afoot to help county Farm Bureaus more effectively in local affairs which influence the lives of all residents in their counties.

Awards program has been discussed, reviewed and approved at the state level, by your Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors. This program, under the leadership of Carl Kentner, is aimed directly at rewarding the emphasis on the concept of Farm Bureau which helped to build this organization's strength in its early years.

It was enthusiastically received by county presidents when presented in tentative outline by Mr. Kentner at the President's Conference at Camp Kett. Now, the details have been worked out, and it's ready to start rolling. The program will be taken to selected county Farm Bureau boards of directors for their okay, and their appointment of county-wide committees made up of three to five members. What kind of people are needed to serve on these committees?

According to Kentner, "We want people who have demonstrated their interest and effectiveness on behalf of Farm Bureau; people who have the respect of their communities, who have indicated their interest in local issues, their ability to work with others and to effectively communicate their ideas."

Committees will be expected to determine local problems and issues, and to report them to the county Farm Bureau board along with recommendations for action to be taken. The county boards will provide both guidance and financing for projects undertaken. If they are to function effectively, committees will need to be the best-informed citizens in the county on local problems they study. Members will be expected to present Farm Bureau's policies and philosophy, serving as "speakers" to local officials and groups. In order to carry out this responsibility, committee members will need to investigate the responsibilities of various governmental agencies and officials.

"Discussing road maintenance problems with a welfare official is a waste of everybody's time," Kentner pointed out. "Lists of officials, lists of agency heads, and names of citizen groups, are all valuable sources of information which committee members still need to secure."

Assistant to committees from the state level will include: Guides for helping to determine what problems exist, resource materials to provide background information; training in preparation of reports.

The rewards which committee members receive will be in direct proportion to their participation. Members can gain in understanding of their local government; they will reap the satisfaction of knowing they have contributed to a better community and have helped to build a better Farm Bureau.

Kentner said one of the program's major goals is to improve the image and the influence of Farm Bureau. In addition, successful county projects will help to increase membership, leadership and participation in county Farm Bureaus, the ultimate roots foundation of our organization.

Training sessions for committee members will be conducted by Kentner and others, to provide information on purpose of the program; ideas on committee functions; outline of services available from the Michigan Farm Bureau; discussion of the need for the program and its value to members.
BRIGHT LIGHTS OF THE MIDWAY — A FAMILIAR SCENE AT THE COUNTY FAIR

FAIR TOMORROW!

Spring has no more than arrived when there is talk of “fair-time” in Michigan! Can it actually be time for the opening of county fairs in our state? Surely not — with crops barely planted and such things as pumpkins and newly harvested fruit months away.

But if you haven’t noticed — modern fair-time has little to do with such things as pumpkins and the harvest, for these days county fairs are much more closely tied to the schedule of carnivals and to other fairs on the “circuit”. Scrambled in between are the two official state fairs — the Upper Peninsula State Fair at Escanaba (August 13-18) and the Michigan State Fair in Detroit (August 23-September 2).

Opening the season will be the Lake Odessa fair July 3, and closing it will be Marquette’s mid-October fair, October 10-12.

Prominent exhibitors at most of the fairs will be the county Farm Bureau organizations of the state. Farm Bureau booths will include such features as rest areas, drawings for prizes, information and entertainment, and in several instances, Farm Bureau Women will sponsor food sales.

The Michigan Farm Bureau will again prepare and offer county fair booth committees, an attractive exhibit theme built around this year’s annual meeting slogan “Strength Through Group Action”. The colorful table-top exhibit will be duplicated in kit form, with each kit passed on by local committees to several area fairs.

August is the big month for fairs in Michigan, with 43 scheduled for the month. Another 19 fairs will have been held in July, and 8 fairs will be held in September. Here is a complete list of dates in the order in which the fairs will be held, beginning with Lake Odessa, July 3 —

Hudson, July 5-7; Vassar, July 5-13; Hesperia, July 11-13; Big Rapids, Crowell and Marne, all July 15-20; Milan, July 20-22; Bay City, Fowleville and Hartford, July 22-27; Hastings, July 22-28; Greenville, July 23-27; Hule, July 24-27; Cadillac, Caro, Harrison, Holland and Mason, July 29-August 3.

Ravena, Aug. 1-5; Ionia, Aug. 3-11; Alma, Aug. 4-6; Jackson, Aug. 4-10; Ann Arbor, Aug. 5-9; Bad Axe, Cassopolis, Coldwater and Monroe, Aug. 5-10; Evart and Flint, Aug. 6-9; Pontiac, Aug. 6-10; Standish, Goochel and Gaylord, Aug. 7-10; Adrian, Aug. 11-17; St. Johns, Aug. 12-14; Lowell, Aug. 12-16; Charlotte, Cheboygan and Corunna, Aug. 12-17; Midland, Aug. 12-19.

Other August fairs are Berrien Springs, Fremont, Ludington and Sandusky, Aug. 13-17; Belleville and Armada, Aug. 13-18; Atlanta, Aug. 14-17; Ironwood, Aug. 15-18; Hudsonville, Aug. 19-23; Alpena, Kalamazoo and Marshall, Aug. 19-24; Petoskey, Aug. 19-25; Mt. Pleasant and Manchester, Aug. 20-24; Iron River, Aug. 22-25; Traverse City, Aug. 25-31; Chelsea, Aug. 28-31; Onwanda, Aug. 29-Sept. 2; Hart, Aug. 29-Sept. 2; Nor- way, Aug. 30-Sept. 2.

September fairs are Imlay City, Sept. 1-7; Marion, Sept. 2-7; Saline, Sept. 3-7; Saginaw and Allegan, Sept. 7-14; Centreville, Sept. 18-21; and Hillsdale, Sept. 22-29.

Marquette, October 10-12.
County zoning can provide protection against unwise land use. Complaints often come to light after the dump or junk yard has been established.

It is then too late to provide safeguards which could be available through county or township zoning.

County Farm Bureau, Community Farm Bureau and individual members can and should be active in initiating and supporting efforts to develop acceptable zoning ordinances. ... 1968 Policy Resolutions Michigan Farm Bureau

ZONING OF AGRICULTURAL LAND—A LOCAL AFFAIR!

WHY ZONE? The headline said, "Supervisors defend county zoning rules." The background behind this Michigan story is long and involved but it boils down to people having been denied building permits for homes because the land had been zoned for septic tank sewage disposal.

A result of the case is criticism of zoning. Purchasers are left with rural plots on which they cannot build and developers in the countryside, naturally they are unhappy. Landowners who had visions of selling a little surplus acreage to the refugees from the city are unhappy because they face either a law suit or the return of money to purchasers. The realtor is unhappy because he lost a sale and the income from commissions.

A well-crafted zoning ordinance, fairly administered, would actually protect the interests of all three. Sounds a little odd, doesn't it? But it is likely to happen if we shall see as we study the subject of zoning agricultural lands.

To be effective, a zoning ordinance must be based on a carefully developed plan for the long range use of land. It cannot be looked upon as a means to stop the encroachment of urban populations but it can be used to ease the dislocations from such encroachments. It can be used to keep tax assessments somewhere near by preventing the random location of houses and businesses on normally agricultural lands. The Farm Bureau-supported bill No. 5797, now in the legislature would require that "zoning and land use" be taken into consideration when assessing property.

Zoning is often confused with land planning and with building codes; it is neither. It is one of the tools employed to make the land-use plan effective. The building code is still another tool to use in the building operation of a land-use plan.

Simply stated, zoning is the division of a township or community into use-divisions such as dwellings, business, manufacturing or agriculture. Under Michigan laws (Act 184 of 1943 as amended) there are eight separate steps in setting up a zoning ordinance in a township:

1. Adoption of "resolution of intent to zone" by Township Board; advertising of resolution.
2. Preparation of a basic land-use plan by the zoning board.
3. Preparation of the proposed zoning ordinance.
4. Public hearings by the zoning board on the proposed zoning.
5. Submission of proposals to county zoning commission for approval and coordination.
6. Enactment of ordinance by Township Board.
7. Publication of the new ordinance.
8. Referendum on proposal if petitioned for by 15% of resident property owners.

There is also built into the system a method by which the property owner may appeal a ruling of the Zoning Board to a Board of Appeals which the zoning unit, by law, must establish.

There is in the law provision for amending the zoning ordinance as deemed appropriate by the Township Board. The process has to be flexible to keep up with the needs of the community with the passage of time, it cannot be a permanently fixed ordinance.

Zoning, properly done, can lead to a systematic development of rural property to the benefit of all concerned. It cannot outlaw buildings already in existence or stop activities already going. For instance, the new zoning ordinance of one community cannot require the removal of a local eyesore already there, but properly used it might prevent the development of another such nuisance. A zoning ordinance cannot correct past mistakes.

Zoning is not always the most popular thing in a community, especially in agricultural areas near the fringe of one of the large cities. When city people come out and ask to buy small plots, 5 or 10 acres, at inflated prices, farmers are tempted to sell. In at least one case, a neighbor sold 4 small lots for about $7,000 dollars each. The assessment of a farm across the road jumped nearly five times because of the sale.

This instance happened because the current zoning plan was not followed, an exception was granted, or possibly the ordinance was just ignored. A good zoning ordinance will function only as well as the people in the community will allow it to.

Of course, a hastily prepared ordinance based on poorly made land-use plans can also prove troublesome. In one county a large artificial lake project proved very costly because the heavy soil was totally unsuited to septic tank operation although the lake itself was very well indeed. Had a properly prepared zoning plan been in effect, this area would not have been open to dwellings without central sewage.

APRIL TOPIC SUMMARY

"Pricing and Bargaining for Farm Products" GROUPS REPORTING: 698

QUESTION: What pricing and bargaining tools should farmers use? List preferences.

METHOD: YES NO UNANSWERED

Pass anti-discrimination law (Since passed by Congress) 489 102 104

Cause buyer to buy only produce of Association members 149 288 91

Use promotion and research with refund privilege 386 142 104

Use compulsory promotion check-off after 2/3 "yes" vote 448 131 66

Use power of group to withhold prices 84 484 74

Use bargaining representation 110 459 68

Use power of government to set up farmer-processors' acceptable price-negotiating boards... as of May 15, 1968...
Double Dollar Days Are Here!

June 5–15th

For every 2 Gallons of paint you buy—

WE'LL GIVE YOU 2 ONE-DOLLAR BILLS

It's time for painting and time for cash savings. This is Unico paint, manufactured in our own plant, to the highest quality specifications! You'll find it's "Equal to the best . . . better than the rest." Buy all you need and get cash in return.

#201 EXTERIOR WHITE
The finest oil paint, with good hiding, controlled sheening, excellent durability, mildew resistance, and excellent coverage.
$6.17 per gal.
(in 2 gal. cans)

#402 BARN PAINT
With iron oxide and oil for longer life. Covers extremely well, goes on easily. A born paint you can depend on!
$4.05 per gal.
(in 2 gal. cans)

#301 LATEX EXTERIOR
Our finest acrylic latex house paint! Used on properly prepared surfaces, it covers both wood and masonry surfaces, can be thinned with water, dries to a satin sheen finish in 30 minutes.
$8.35 per gal.
(in 2 gal. cans)

Aluminum 5' Step Ladder
$9.95

Aluminum 16' Extension Ladder
$13.30

4" Tynex Bristle Paint Brush
$4.90

Cash In on the June Bonus buys at your neighborhood Farm Bureau dealers. Get big savings on all items!
NOW...10% MORE OF YOUR INCOME IS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

(for building nest eggs)

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HERE'S HOW IT WORKS.

Invest in your own retirement fund. Use 10% of your business income up to $2,500...then deduct the amount from your income tax as a business expense. Income tax on annual earnings of $15,000, for example, could be reduced by more than $300 each year...while you build a pension fund guaranteeing your financially-secure retirement.

Your Farm Bureau Insurance Group representative has the answers. Why not call him today?

GUARANTEE YOUR CAREFREE RETIREMENT LATER...WITH TAX-FREE SAVINGS NOW!

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