FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM

We support those people throughout the world who are working and fighting for freedom...

To our fighting men who have shouldered this burden we pledge our support. The freedom they defend is our freedom. The flag on their battle standard is our flag...

We condemn the acts of those who incite or participate in riots, defile the flag, or burn draft cards. We recognize the right of citizens to dissent, but protests and demonstrations should not interfere with the rights of others...

— 1968 Farm Bureau policy statements

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Time To Hoist It

OLD-FASHIONED PATRIOTISM

A Harvest of Thought

July, the beginning of harvest time. Please remember to be alert to the safety rules of your harvest machinery. Be careful with all the children home—many of them are so curious alert to the safety roles of your harvest machinery. Be careful.

AAGV and September are coming up fast, and, although our voting delegates and accredited visitors have been chosen anyone can attend U.S.A. Day, 103 Home Economics Building, East Lansing, Michigan 48823. Make all checks payable to Michigan State University. Cost is $4.25 for registration and the noon luncheon; for the cost is $6.75.

A PERSONAL WORD FROM THE WOMEN:

TWO

Michigan Farm News

The Michigan Farm News is published monthly, on the first day by the Michigan Farm Bureau, at its publication office at 307 A. LaSalle Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226.


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AG-RESEARCH

Although there are untold millions of people in the world who are not properly fed, we occasionally hear the suggestion that we should cut or temporarily halt agricultural production research.

Some scientists predict that we have already lost the race against the population explosion. On the other hand, Paul Ehrlich of Stanford University said that if there is not a sudden halt in the birth rate or a sudden increase in the death rate in the Orient, there will be mass starvation there in the 1960s, possibly earlier.

Given the opportunity and incentive of the American farm researcher, although we may not get a cure, we could work miracles in a very few years or even months.

Another reason for the continued emphasis on production research is the long period between the basic research and its application on the farm.

I'm told that the research which led to the development of the specific weed killer such as 2,4-D took nearly 20 years in one of America's most modern research laboratories. It just can't afford to stand around while new methods are being perfected. The methods have to be ready when we need them— or perhaps may start in America. We farmers are in a real bind just now because we didn't push hard enough for water pollution research, although we recognized the need for it several years ago. I am positive that the farmer is one of the minor offenders in the current furor over pesticide pollution here in Michigan, but we just can't prove it completely with data currently at hand. Research under way will very likely clear us in a matter of a few years, but by then we could be completely tied with unneeded laws and regulations on pesticides use.

Then there is the matter of artificial foods. Milk currently is the one being attacked, but others very likely will follow when the economics become favorable for their commercial production.

I wonder if there isn't some way we can dress up our old favorite, milk, so it will be more attractive to Mrs. Housewife. We can whip the imitation products with a real product which is different and which is supported with energetic sales effort. We certainly can't whip it with prohibitive legislation or regulation. The research for these new products is overdue.

Although our requests for research funds for Michigan State University have been very modest in recent years, we are meeting more and more resistance from both labor and business leaders in the Legislature. They say, "Why don't you farmers put up a little of your own money for research?"

We are putting more and more of our own money into research both here in Michigan and nationally, but we need—and I do mean need—for more than we are currently spending. In recent weeks we have completed the legalities for setting up a new research foundation in the American Farm Bureau and several problems are already being considered, along with ways to finance them.

As farmers utilizing the research from all these sources, I believe we must also maintain closer contact with ongoing research at both state and federal research facilities. We can often help with the basic planning to make sure the money is spent on projects which give some promise of profitable use either now or at some point we can anticipate.

I sometimes fear that in the current push to spend federal research money we may wind up with several people duplicating some of the research projects or doing research purely as a basis for learned technical papers. Basic research we need for its potential usefulness, but basic research for pure knowledge's sake we cannot afford. We must stay abreast of the potential.

Research is our responsibility—we cannot coddle this responsibility and survive.

Elton Smith
HOW FARMERS FARED IN THE LEGISLATURE

record number of bills!

By Robert E. Smith
Legislative Counsel

As this is written, the legislature has for the most part taken final action on this year's record number of bills. Many of the measures were of vital interest to Michigan farmers, with the bills that were killed in committee - or defeated, often of more importance to the welfare of farmers than some of the legislation which was passed.

Here - by topic area, is a condensed report of some of the legislation most interest to Farm Bureau members.

TAXATION

The five bills, in both the House and Senate, that would have repealed the present sales tax exemption on farm machinery and other farm supplies died in committee. This has been a long-time struggle in the Senate committee. S. 1248, as originally written and on the Senate floor last year, would have made a restrictive definition of agriculture, eliminated some farmers from the farm personal property tax exemption. Farm Bureau worked to eliminate the restrictive definition and proposed a broad definition to assure all farmers of the exemption. This bill also was finally amended to delete from personal property tax new farm machinery being held in the dealers' hands. Farm Bureau has supported this proposal as the best interest of farmers, and as it is merely giving the farm machinery dealers the same consideration that the automobile dealers have had for many years. The bill also contains other amendments to the tax statute that are in line with Farm Bureau policy.

S. 979, which would have required assessors to take "zoning and land use" into consideration, passed the Senate by an overwhelming vote of 28 to 3. However, it failed in the House by only four votes. It was kept alive by putting it on the table, but finally died, along with many other bills, at the deadline time.

However, progress is being made on the problem of assessing property on its potential value. The Court of Appeals has ruled that property assessed for one use cannot be assessed on its potential value for another use. The Tax Commission is carrying this case to the Supreme Court.

There are several bills to prevent the assessment of farm land and other property on its "potential value" rather than its agricultural value as maintained in committee. This is a complex issue, involving constitutional provisions which the Tax Committees intend to make a specific interim study of the issue. Other tax bills, while important, were of more an administrative nature.

FARM LABOR

Here again, most of those bills regarding farm labor which would have placed added burdens on farmers died in committee. Those that did pass included a new amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Law that were won last year. Another bill would have brought farmers under the Michigan Labor Mediation Board (agriculture is presently exempt). A third bill would have put several restrictions on farmers hiring labor, including the prevention of transportation of seasonal employees without a written contract with each employee. Some other conditions of employment.

Other bills would have created a Commission on Agricultural Labor within the Department of Labor. This idea was finally attached to another bill, and is presently in a conference committee.

S. 1235 would have rewritten Michigan's Minimum Wage law and, in its original form, would have eliminated specific piece rate provisions, broadened the coverage to include those over 65, and increased the wage rate from the present $1.25 per hour to $1.50 per hour by 1972.

Farm Bureau was successful in including the present piece rate provisions, rewriting the section defining agriculture, and adding provisions that would require the minimum wage for agriculture would be no more than the equivalent of the federal minimum wage for agriculture. The bill passed the Senate, but was defeated in the House. Therefore, the present state Minimum Wage Law will remain in effect.

EDUCATION

The new State Aid Act, as far as amounts of money and equity are concerned, is considered the fairest ever passed. It is definitely "in line with Farm Bureau policy.

There are nine formulas instead of two, which should particularly help the low valuation districts. It contains a $60 million increase over last year. If this amount, statewide, were to be raised by property taxes, it would require nearly two nulls. The total state aid will amount to $615 million. To this amount must be added another $137.5 million for the Teachers' Retirement Fund, making a total of $752.5 million.

Several other educational bills passed, including one permitting intermediate school districts and other school districts to form an authority for the purpose of building facilities for handicapped, retarded, or mentally disturbed children. Another, permitting school districts to form in emergency situations, was finally amended to apply only to Wayne County. Other drastic reorganization bills either remained in committee or did not get introduced.

MARKETING

Last year's change in the Wine Law, increasing the price of wine grapes $11 per ton, was part of Farm Bureau's marketing effort for that commodity. This year, at least two other bills that would have damaged last year's success were killed in committee. On the other hand, H. 376, requiring processors of fruits and vegetables to announce marketing prices, is a bill that is written agreement died in the Senate Committee on Agriculture. The bill did pass out of the Senate, but the House by a large vote and was given immediate effect. This bill appeared to be a victim of some political trading.

Markets for Michigan livestock have declined since the United States Congress passed the federal meat inspection stamp. Farm Bureau's marketing effort has been hampered by this change, and the present piece rate provision under federal inspection in the Detroit area have lost nearly 30 percent of their market. This affects the marketing of Farm Bureau's livestock. Farm Bureau's support must be worked for an amendment to an appropriation bill to permit Michigan to enter into an agreement with federal authorities which will, in turn, permit the use of the federal meat inspection stamp. This should help to regain some of the lost market.

One of the most important and far-reaching legislation this year occurred when Congress increased the acreage of the federal minimum wage, the bill passed the Senate, but was defeated in the House. Therefore, the present state Minimum Wage Law will remain in effect.

PESTICIDE ISSUE

S. 994 and H. 611, introduced through the pressure of the Department of Conservation, finally died either in committee or on the table. This was a major issue and, if passed, would have seriously affected agriculture. It will be a continuing issue, as the opposing groups are well financed and dedicated to eliminating the use of pesticides.

There are two special interim study committees—a three-member Governor's committee and a ten-member joint House-Senate legislative committee.

Two other Farm Bureau-supported pesticide bills passed. They will tighten the laws regulating custom application of pesticides and also tighten the present pesticide registration requirements.

Some of the strictly agricultural legislation included changes in the sausage law and upgrading of the Michigan ice cream law. Another dairy bill permits a low-fat eggnog. It also spells out more specifically what a milk plan must do when picking up milk at the farm. This is to assure the producer of greater accuracy and to lessen the chance of violation. The present distance-from-the-wall requirement around bulk tanks has been eliminated.

Pamage of S. 682 creates a foreign trade branch in the Department of Agriculture, designed to assist in the expansion of foreign markets. Farm Bureau, on both national and state levels, has already had considerable success in finding new foreign markets. Desirable amendments were also made to the fertilizer law and the present potato seedling act, requiring buyers to be bonded.

In the areas of agricultural research, the legislature continued appropriations for research on cherries, new vegetable varieties, and pesticides. In addition, new research programs will be set up for research on melons, beef and forage, soil and turf production, new wheat varieties and disease control.

This summary is far from complete. A more comprehensive report of Farm Bureau's legislative program will be released as soon as all issues are finally settled and the legislature adjourns for the year.
Recently, a national convention of Students for a Democratic Society was held on the campus of Michigan State University. At this convention, members were continually urged to get changes by marches, demonstrations, disorders, and even riots—revolution. This event was well covered by the press and brought to the attention of the general public some of the means by which some of our people would advocate that we effect changes in our government.

The hue and cry of many minorities and dissident groups today is, “We demand our rights,” with little or no regard to the means by which some of our people would advocate that we run the business of the people (our government). Today, SDS and other such groups operate under the phony slogan of the “right to dissent.” They distort the constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and the right of peaceful assembly into a legalization of intimidation, riot and anarchy.

Can a democratic society like the United States survive in such conditions where people try to make changes in laws by these means rather than through our political system of government?

In order to keep America an orderly, free, prosperous nation, we must maintain and strengthen our system of government by law rather than men. In order to provide for needed changes in the law and adequate enforcement of the law, we must become more concerned and active in running our own business. People in America are very apathetic about their responsibilities in electing qualified people to office. Nationwide, general elections in November will see about 60 percent of those eligible to vote exercising that right and responsibility. Prior to this, in the primary election where the determination of candidates is made, only about eight percent of those eligible to vote will be making these choices. In other words, theoretically, five percent of the people (a majority of the eight percent who voted in the primary) are really making the choices we have for political office.

“IT IS GREENER!”

You as a Farm Bureau member can help in this 1968 election year by:

- Becoming active in the political party of your choice.
- Becoming a candidate for public office or urging friends to become candidates.
- Serving on a “Farmers for Joe Candidate” committee.
- Contributing money to the party and candidate of your choice.
- Expressing your views on public issues, and your favorite candidates, to your friends.
- Helping to get everyone who has your basic philosophy to vote and encouraging them to vote in the primary and general elections.
- Helping to get public understanding of at least three issues on the ballot:
  1. Income Tax
  2. Double Daylight Saving Time
  3. Graduated Income Tax

Let’s vote to get Michigan back on Eastern Standard Time, and maintain our broad-based, flat rate income tax.

Your vote in the election does count, and in greater proportion than just one vote. Because of the apathy of many people, a few active citizens can have a profound effect on the outcome of the election.

Contact your County Farm Bureau to find out what activities are planned to help insure that changes in our government come by ballots rather than bullets.

You HELP DECIDE

by Dale Sherwin, Legislative Counsel

In the law and adequate enforcement of the law, we must become more concerned and active in running our own business. People in America are very apathetic about their responsibilities in electing qualified people to office. Nationwide, general elections in November will see about 60 percent of those eligible to vote exercising that right and responsibility. Prior to this, in the primary election where the determination of candidates is made, only about eight percent of those eligible to vote will be making these choices. In other words, theoretically, five percent of the people (a majority of the eight percent who voted in the primary) are really making the choices we have for political office.

"YOU KNOW WHAT? IT IS GREENER!"

Proposed Youth Labor Rule Supported

The American Farm Bureau Federation has endorsed a proposed Labor Department ruling which would permit employment in specific “hazardous occupations” of 4-H Club participants, 14 or 15 years of age—who have received specific training in the safe use of agricultural machinery and equipment.

In a letter to the Department, Roger Fleming, American Farm Bureau Secretary-Treasurer and director of the Washington office, said the proposed ruling should be approved.

He added that Farm Bureau recommends a similar authorization for young workers provided comparable training in high school agricultural courses and in other educational institutions.
In moving bagged Michigan navy beans, the Michigan Elevator Exchange division of Farm Bureau Services is helping to test a new system of "unitizing" to speed up the process and to reduce costs of moving beans to European customers.

Working with the H. J. Heinz Company, Ltd., of England, they are making experimental shipments of beans which have first been fastened to pallets for shipment.

The unitized pallet-loads of beans are handled by machines such as fork-lifts and cranes, saving substantial amounts of labor in all the handling steps from elevators to ships and into the processor's plant in England.

On occasions in the past near the end of the shipping season, a shortage of stevedores has created serious problems when ships had to be loaded. In previous years the beans were shoveled into the hold on pallets, and they then had to be unloaded by hand and stored in the hold.

About 18 months ago, the Port Huron Terminal Company had agreed to load 14,000 tons of beans for the Michigan Elevator Exchange only to find few stevedores were available. Everyone in the industry was frantic because the shipping season was nearing over and the beans had been promised for early delivery.

Fortunately, Farm Bureau's Michigan Agricultural Services Association was able to recruit a crew to load the beans on time.

Since that time port and elevator officials have been haunted by memories of that bleak November morning when 60 freight cars of beans stood on the tracks at Port Huron, a waiting ship tied up at the dock, and only four stevedores available to load.

The current shipment, which is going to the Heinz Company in England, consists of 18,000 bags of No. 1 navies. Heinz is England's largest canner of Michigan navy beans.

In the new technique, which is being tried by several exporters, the bags are stacked on pallets and are strapped down with a high-strength, nylon-reinforced tape. This tape has the ability to stretch about 15% with the strains of handling and still return to its original length and tightness, holding the bags in place.

Once the bags are strapped to the pallets they are handled by cranes and fork-lift. In the ship's hold the bags are stowed by a small fork-lift, and the pallets go along to England with the beans.

If the test proves the worth of the system, it might make Michigan navy beans more competitive on the foreign market.

Photo-Story
by Charles Bailey

NYLON-REINFORCED TAPE—is applied to bagged beans stacked on pallets, in one of the first steps in a new loading procedure devised originally by the H. J. Heinz Company, Ltd., of England, and recently used at Port Huron, Michigan.

MECHANICAL POWER—largely replaces man-power in stowing beans into the ship's hold. Using the fork-lift, two men can stow the beans faster than was common with an 8 or 10-man crew. At the English port, they will unload in similar manner and with large savings in labor cost.

TIPPING OFF A HOLD—the ship's crane takes over when the fork-lift has reached its limits and moved on to another hold. Quality is a strong point in the overseas sale of Michigan beans. Note the protective paper coverings separating the pallets while in transit.
A light crop of asparagus selling at a record price of 20 cents per pound was reported by the Asparagus Marketing committee of MACMA at the close of the current season July 1.

With the 1968 harvest beginning three or four weeks ahead of last year, prospects for a bumper crop were bright. However, cold wet weather throughout May brought a decline in production. Last year’s record price of 18.5 cents per pound was reported by the Asparagus Marketing committee, chairman. Alton Wendzel of Watervliet is chairman of the Asparagus Marketing committee, and Tom Groesser of Hart is vice-chairman.

Reporting on the successful season just completed, Wendzel paid tribute to the leadership of key committees. He said plans are already underway for an even better season next year, and the sign-up of additional growers in MACMA’s asparagus division will continue through the remainder of the year.

All Farm Bureau members who raise asparagus are urged to join MACMA and the Asparagus division. A number of growers have expressed interest in participating.

Other MACMA programs include red tart cherries, apples, grapes and processing vegetable crops. With asparagus harvest past, MACMA will intensely work in the Red Tart Cherry division, the next crop to be marketed.

Jerry Campbell, 31, of Decatur, has joined the staff of Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Association (MACMA) as field representative serving the southeastern Michigan area.

His appointment was announced by Robert Bruden, MACMA manager, who said Campbell will begin work July 1, devoting his time to various commodities grown in southwestern Michigan.

MACMA, an affiliate company of Michigan Farm Bureau, also has a field representative assigned to northwestern Michigan, John Wallie. Other staff members serve on a state-wide basis. The company provides marketing and crop information to member growers.

A resident of the Decatur area since 1955, Mr. Campbell attended Arkansas College in Batesville, Arkansas. Since 1960 he had been plant manager for Cotton Farm Services in Lawrence, and is well-known to area farmers.

Prior to that time, he was employed in the national produce division of the A & P company. He also operated a farm for several years.

The WIDE One Is Here!

UNICO

WIDE MARK

GLAS-BELT

High Performance Tires

Here’s a bold, new concept in tire design and construction. This polyester cord has the strength and moisture resistance of nylon yet provides the smooth no-thump ride of rayon. Unico wide tire cross-section is only 70% as high as it is wide (this ratio for most conventional tires is about 84%). The Glas-Belt puts two belts of Fiberglass on a bias with two plies of polyester cord for better skid control, better handling and longer mileage than conventional tires. Take advantage of this and other low prices during your local dealers big sale.

FARMERS PETROLEUM

4000 N. GRAND RIVER AVE. LANSING, MICHIGAN 48904

Always abreast of the modern trends, Unico offers one sidewall red and one sidewall white!
Emblem is Effective Safety Experts Note

Michigan Farm Bureau Women are delighted by new figures showing that fatal traffic accidents involving slow-moving vehicles in our state are down. They feel that this is evidence of their hard work in promoting the slow-moving vehicle emblem and distributing it among motorists.

With from 3 to 15 of the bright-colored emblems per farm, they are to be seen everywhere, with farmers and others who use slow-moving vehicles on our highways appearing to be much more safety conscious. Now, the alert Safety Committee of Farm Bureau Women is using the July 21-27 national Farm Safety Week to remind all Michigan residents of the direct link between farm safety, farm people and accidents — and to promote further understanding and correct use of the "SMV" emblems.

For example, the most recently compiled figures show that of the 2,000 accidental deaths in farm work over the United States, 500 of them involved non-residents of farms.

Another set of figures spotlight the 53,000 motor-vehicle fatalities in 1967 — revealing that only 30 per cent died in urban accidents, while 70 per cent died from rural accidents.

As might be suspected, tractors and similar slow-moving vehicles are often involved, with more than 1,000 persons killed alone each year in tractor accidents over the United States. The new evidence that in Michigan, the widespread use of the slow-moving-vehicle emblem is reducing our share of that toll, is expected to encourage other state legislatures to make the emblem mandatory.

Michigan Farm Bureau Women fought for the state law requiring its use, and conducted a highly successful campaign to distribute the emblems and assure their correct use.

Nearly 50,000 of the emblems were distributed by Farm Bureau Women since the law went into effect and the emblems still remain available at modest cost through Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

Meanwhile, close observation reveals many improper and illegal uses of the device, all too often seen displayed upside down, at a wrong height, or on high-speed machines or trucks.

Farm Bureau Women remind all users that the law is quite specific about how the emblem shall be mounted and under what conditions it shall be used, stating: "When operated on the highway, every vehicle which has a maximum potential speed of 25 miles an hour, implement of husbandry, farm tractor, or special mobile equipment, shall be identified with a reflective device as follows . . . ." At this point, the law describes the familiar emblem, and then tells how it shall be placed:

"The device shall be mounted on the rear of the vehicle, broad base down, not less than 3 feet nor more than 5 feet above the ground and as near the center of the vehicle as possible . . . ."

The law adds: "The use of this reflective device is restricted to use on slow-moving vehicle specific in this section, and use of such reflective device on any other type of vehicle or stationary object on the highway is prohibited . . . ."

Although the safety-conscious attitude of all users is to be commended, wrongful use weakens the purpose of the emblem, which is meant to become an automatic signal to motorists of a specific type of hazard ahead.

In short, the emblem must rest when it comes to farm and highway safety. Farm Bureau Women are now helping distribute a new farm-accident prevention poster, prepared by the Farm Bureau Insurance Group and available to farm operators and others through the Underwriting Division, Farm Bureau Insurance Group: Attention, John Leary.
**Blue Ribbon Group Is Named by Board**

Members of a top-drawer State Farm Bureau study committee met June 6 in Lansing, to begin the important job of analyzing the membership make-up, programs and finances, of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Appointed by the board of directors in response to a resolution passed at the last annual meeting, the work to be done by the 17-member group was outlined by Elton Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau president.

He reminded them that it is traditional within Farm Bureau for members to play a vital role in making key decisions, and that some such decisions lie ahead. He raised the question of more income for agriculture and said that although some economists suggest a minimum yearly return on a farm investment should be six percent, others are calling for 10 percent.

Labelling the group a "tremendously important committee" he challenged them to find new methods to serve members, to scrutinize all present programs, and to make recommendations capable of keeping Farm Bureau abreast of a fast-moving agricultural industry.

"Remember, we live in an economy geared to inflation," Smith said. He told the new state-wide committee that the kind of organization farmers need must speak for the good, actual farmers, and must be effective enough to be recognized as the organization deserving their support.

Named to the committee are: James Sparks, Cass county; Renu Riggs, Branch; James Sprad, Wayne; Robert Buist, Oceana; Robert Braid, Shiawassee, Loren Gettel, Huron; Francis Hawley, Oceana; Win. Gosen, Saginaw, and Loy Patney, Benzie.

Others on the committee include: Beverly Velligette, Atrium; Franklin Schneider, Chippewa. Representing Farm Bureau Women is Mrs. Harold McMichael, Ingham. Members at large are Robert Zeeb, Clinton and Stanley Fag, Ingham. Representing the Michigan Farm Bureau board are Dean Fridgeon, and Michael Satchell.

**Noted Farm Leader Succumbs**

Allan Kline, 73, the Iowa hog farmer who, in the years from 1947 to 1954, led the American Farm Bureau Federation through some of the most trying and most successful years of its history, died on April 13, 1968, at his home near Vinton, Iowa. He was accompanied on his visit by Mrs. Kline.

Earlier in the day he had enjoyed relaxing with his son, Robert, and looking over the livestock and crops.

"I don't know much about some things," Kline used to say. "But I do know hogs. There is very little about a pig that I don't know, and you can't get them to put that special curl in their tail by telling them it should be there. Instead, there are some things you have to do, to help them get it there..." and with this, Kline would go on to illustrate complex economic and political structures as they related to agriculture, doing so in concise terms which often left opponents with little ground on which to stand.

While AFBF president, and after his voluntary retirement from that post in 1954 to "catch up on my thinking," he made many trips to Michigan. Kline appeared at Camp Kett in February of 1965, and in Grand Rapids in mid-April of this year where he spoke to members of combined Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliate company staffs at a state-wide liaison rally.

A noted orator and former debating champion, he was scheduled to be a major speaker at the forthcoming triennial conference of Associated Country Women of the World in East Lansing, in September.

His series of essays on Freedom that carried in column form in the Michigan Farm News, was later widely reprinted over the United States. As is true of much of what he has done, the series will continue to serve as a monument to the public understanding of complex issues and what these issues mean to farmers and to America.
Success in operation will be viewed on eight southern Michigan farms in the vicinity of Hillsdale at the 20th annual State Farm Management Tour Thursday, August 1. The extension service of Michigan State university annually organizes this event to stress the advantages of good management and records for efficient and profitable farming.

Albert Hall, Hillsdale county extension agricultural agent, general chairman of the event, has assembled a professional staff of county and state extension workers to assist. Eight different types of farming will be on display in the morning. At noon, all the visitors are expected at the Hillsdale county fairgrounds, for the lunch, entertainment and brief program.

Dr. Lawrence L. Bogner, chairman of the MSU agricultural economics department, will discuss: "The Agronomist and the Farmer: A Dialogue." Grain handling and drying equipment will be displayed at the fairgrounds. Eight different meetings, each on a type of farming shown at the farms in the morning, will include discussion and question periods.

There will be a special afternoon program at the fairgrounds for homemakers. Family management, foods and clothing specialists from the MSU extension family living staff will speak.

The map shows the location of the farms with numbers keyed to the list in the right lower corner.

Operators of six of the eight farms are active Farm Bureau members.

Programs will begin at each farm at 9:30 and 10:45 a.m., allowing visitors to see two farms and hear complete stories.

Here is a brief background on the tour farms:

1. MIKE BARTON'S SWINE FARM, Horton. In 10 years this progressing young MSU graduate has built a $3,000 cash investment and 36 sows into a 375-head specialized commercial pork-producing operation. (Charles, wife and four sons, James and Randy, raise 1,000-bird capacity for ornamental and show use.)

2. HAWKES' SHEEP FARM, Litchfield. Mrs. Ophelia Hawkes and two sons, James and Randy, raised 165 lambs from their flock in 1967. Lambs were marketed at a $9 price, with a net income of $1,643.43 per head. Mrs. Hawkes is an active Farm Bureau member.

3. LATE MAY FROSTS - damaged apples on the Frank Green farm. Green has installed an efficient low-cost corn drying equipment which will handle more than 26,000 bushels per day. This equipment will be exhibited at the fairgrounds, for the lunch, entertainment and brief program.

4. CHARLES ZEILER'S POULTRY FARM, Hillsdale. This efficient 11,000-bird laying flock, which averaged 245 egg per bird in 1967, is fed chiefly from corn grown, dried, ground and mixed on the 600-acre farm. The Zeilers raise their own pullets from day-old chicks at a savings of 35 cents per bird. Their goals are: "Expanding the laying flock of 1,000,000 birds in 1970 or 1971. A slatted-floor farrowing and feed grinding unit will be reviewed for efficient and profitable farming."

5. FRANK GREEN'S FRUIT FARM, Allen. This 200-acre orchard of apples, plums, peaches, nectarines, pears and sweet cherries depends on retail sales at roadside farm markets for much of its income. Green, active in the Farm Bureau, pioneered in semi-dwarf trees to simplify picking of fruit. He has 77 acres of semi-dwarf apple trees, 27 acres planted in 1954. Excellent cost records help improve farm management on this fruit farm. Mrs. Green supervises the roadside market.

6. WILLIAM HAYWARD CROP FARM, Hillsdale. Corn is "king" on this 377-acre cash crop farm which features minimum tillage, fertilizing according to soil test results, and chemical weed control. Corn dryers, elevating and storage facilities to handle more than 25,000 bushels, are part of this low-cost, efficient specialized operation that uses a minimum of hired labor. Hayward is an active Farm Bureau member.

7. CHARLES AMES' DAIRY FARM, Quincy. This 524-acre, 1,006-cow Holstein farm produced 13,000 pounds of milk for a dairy income of $8512 per cow in 1967.

8. GRAND CHAMPION LAMB - at the 1967 Detroit livestock show was claimed by Randy Hawkes, shown with a Columbian ram from the Zeiler farm.

CASH CROP FARMER - William Hayward, Jr. has installed an efficient low-cost corn drying facility on his specialized farm.
"what our flag means to me"

First place in a Freedoms Foundation essay contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance group has been awarded to Marcie Baldwin, 14, eighth-grade student at Lansing's C. W. Otto Junior High School. Her reward was a three-day all-expense paid trip to Mackinac Island with her teacher, Mrs. Beverly Crossnoe. Late in June the pair was flown by jet to Pellston, then transported by limousine and ferry to the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

The month-long essay contest entitled, "What the U.S. Flag Means to Me," was conducted among Lansing eighth grade pupils. Winners of their individual school contests were: Barbara Bailey, West junior high, who placed second in final competition; Michael S. Forman, Patteggill Junior high, third place winner; Sally Belton and Ricky Pickett, as third place winners.

As a final essay judge were: Gerald R. Ford, congressman for Michigan's fifth district and House Minority leader; Charles E. Condon, former governor from the sixth district; John R. Dethmers, chief justice, Michigan supreme court; and D. W. Dethmers, editor of the education division, Michigan State Association of Superintendents.

Marcie's school received a large stand-up display flag, and approximately enlarged flag sets were awarded to the second and third place winners and to their schools.

A new "Western Circle" tour, leaving by rail July 23, will take Farm Bureau members to major national park areas of our great West. Special buses will be used to tour scenic districts in Colorado, Rocky Mountain National Park, and the cities of Denver and Salt Lake City.

Also included are side-tours of Zion, Grand Canyon, Bryce, Yellowstone and Grant Teton National Parks. The group returns August 7. For more details of this or any of the other tours listed nearby, call or write the Information Department of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

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"Springboard" to Problem Solving

"Springboard" is both the title of an unusual meeting between directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliate companies, and a description of much of what takes place at the annual two-day meeting.

For a number of years the cross-company get-together has served as an actual springboard to new programs, ideas and directions. Minutes of the meeting are used at the meetings have bearing on Farm Bureau activities but usually lie well outside the current mainstream of the organization. Without pressure for immediate solution, complex topics that are tough may be approached in an informal setting, usually at some distance from the Michigan Farm Bureau headquarters at Lansing.

Production versus Price Freedom and Profits" was the subject used by Dr. Eggert, former Farm Motor Company market research executive. He asked whether farmers were willing to trade some of their production freedom for increased profits, drawing a parallel between the automotive industry's problems and acceptance of market discipline — to that of agriculture.

Eggert, who has a sizeable farm operation of his own near Ann Arbor, Michigan, recognized that farmers would have to like total production freedom but questioned whether it might not be wise to trade some of this freedom for increased profits.

After a discussion, Eggert presented the topic "Brain Power versus Muscle Power — in the Market Place." In this, he stressed the need for top quality management and computerized bookkeeping. Use of specialists on a consultant basis was suggested as one alternative in management problems.

This was followed by Dr. Hood's discussion of farm bargaining and marketing "AAAJA Style." He pointed out that Farm Bureau has been in the marketing field since the early 1920s — describing the various programs of marketing and bargaining now being carried on through Farm Bureau.

The "Performing Arts Company" of the Information Division presented a hilarious but thought-provoking evening program, beginning with a skit illustrating the many methods by which people communicate, or fail to communicate — verbally, with words and without words, by music, attitudes and gestures.

Once the message, the person who gets the message but fails to interpret it as intended, the character who "marches to a different drum," were all portrayed. Involvement in the skit were Melvin Woell, Charles Bailey, Roger Brown, Margaret McCall and Carl Kentner, all of the Information Division. A filmed presentation was followed by an illustration of classic "bloopers" which have occurred because of misunderstanding and misinterpretation. At one stage in the program the problems of rivalry were dramatically highlighted by two of the performers shouting at each other — each saying the same things but in a different manner, in a gradually darkening room. A fast "ball game" concluded the program, with the game pinpointing phases of group dynamics.

Discussion questions included: What do you see as the type of business organization of the farm in 1975? In 1983? What types of farm organization activity will produce the best net income for the farm operator of today? of 1983? Can successful bargaining exist in farm commodities concurrently with the present permanent price supports?

Perhaps the most tricky question of all was — "When will farmers be ready to accept the disciplines necessary to bargain effectively?" Among the "Springboard" session were members of the boards of directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Services, Inc, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., the Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA), Michigan Agricultural Services Association (MASA) and managers of the affiliate companies.
AGRICULTURE IN ACTION
--- PICTORIAL REPORT

FARMING WITH A SIX HORSE HITCH

AMISH FARMER — uses old-fashioned horse power to draw an ancient disk rig, complete with stones for added weight. While rejecting a modern tractor and implements, he has installed a tractor seat, the Bostrom Model-X — in its day a major innovation, with the original now on display in the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

EARLY TRACTOR

THIS CORN PLANTER — a two-row model of 100 years ago, was considered a vast improvement over the previous two person hoe and drop-in operation.

MUCH OF THE WORLD — continues to harvest by sickle and scythe and back-breaking labor. These ancient methods of Bible days were also used in pioneer America. Note child in improvised hammock.

OX-POWER THRESHER

TREADMILL THRESHER — of 1837, was first practical threshing machine using ox power. Commonly called “growlers” — this one is on display at Harold Warp Pioneer Village, Min- den, Nebraska.

BATES “STEEL MULE” — 1918 vintage tractor, boasted 12 to 20 horsepower, tracks for driving and wide-spaced steel wheels for steering at the reckless speed of about 3 miles per hour.

MUCH OF THE WORLD — continues to harvest by sickle and scythe and back-breaking labor. These ancient methods of Bible days were also used in pioneer America. Note child in improvised hammock.

HURON PIONEERS

THE PIONEER GROUP — of Huron county has celebrated its 30th anniversary. Two county presidents, five board mem- bers, two county Women’s chairmen and two District Women’s chairmen have come from this group. Eleven of 21 persons present have been members 20 years; Mrs. Bruce Crumback, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCarty, Mr. and Mrs. George Southworth, Mr. and Mrs. Roy English and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ritter.

A LOOK AHEAD

THE FIRST THRESHER — a hand-swung hinged club, or “flail” is still used in many areas of the world. Grain knocked from the straw is “winnowed” from pan to bucket to remove the chaff. In the United States, about 100 years separated the flail from modern combines.

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STUDY GROUP CHAIRMAN — Arthur Gibb, visits with MFB President, Elton Smith, following the first meeting of the new, state-wide Study Committee. The 17-member group is charged with analyzing all present Farm Bureau programs and projects and to report to the Board of Directors. Gibb operates a 400-acre farm in Branch county, devoted to beef and corn production. (See story on page 9)
you are a success
-because you plan

You're a success in the world's toughest business because you're a plan ... you have to be. Besides buildings and machinery, agribusiness involves crops, animals, weather and open-end employee hazards.

Employee accidents can be as detrimental to farming operations as wind, fire or disease. However, most Michigan agribusinessmen have protected themselves against employee liability suits by obtaining Workmen's Compensation insurance. In fact, more than two-thirds of these planners have decided in favor of Workmen's Compensation from Farm Bureau Insurance group. Michigan's largest writer of Farmowners policies and agricultural Workmen's Compensation.

The first of July, Michigan's Farm Workmen's Compensation Act will be one year old. For the next few months, Workmen's Compensation programs will be renewed for another year and auditing, labor laws will begin.

RENEWAL PROCEDURES
Farm Bureau Workmen's Compensation policyholders can expect a direct and simple series of events which will renew their coverage for another year and determine their experience for last year. Farm Bureau Insurance group's modern Data Processing system will efficiently tabulate and mail renewal invoices for current Workmen's Compensation policies expiring after June 30th this year. The 1968-69 Workmen's Compensation policies renewal policy will be excluded with invoices.

Approximately 15 days after the 1967 policy expiration date, voluntary audit forms will be mailed to the policyholder. After following simple instructions, the audit form should be immediately returned in the self-addressed envelope which accompanied it. Based on the audit, any premium adjustments will be made on the 1968-69 Workmen's Compensation policies.

Farm Bureau specialists will provide personal audit assistance for larger farming operations. Policyholders (with premiums exceeding $500) who experience a good safety record will receive a dividend.

THREE COVERAGE PLANS
Farm Bureau Insurance group is the only Michigan-based firm to offer three Workmen's Compensation programs tailored to fit open-end employee hazards.

a) Unlimited Medical Benefits for all employees, including exchange labor, beginning on the first day of employment.

b) $100,000 Employer Liability Coverage.

c) Wage Loss and Rehabilitation Expense.

If an employer operating a medium-sized farm does not require the above plan, he hires employees for more than five consecutive weeks, he is entitled to Farm Bureau's total Workmen's Compensation protection. This coverage includes Unlimited Medical Benefits, $100,000 Employee Liability Coverage and protection for any obligation to which he is liable under the Michigan Workmen's Compensation Act.

A special program for smaller farms is available to all agricultural employers hiring employees for less than 13 or more consecutive weeks. This program is available at a minimum cost of $80. A flat rate, per employee, is charged based on the employer's place of business. The employer is still entitled to full protection of Unlimited Medical Benefits, $100,000 Employer Liability and protection for any obligation under Michigan's Workmen's Compensation Act. This program is perfect for farmers who can't afford a labor or occasional hired help.

BENEFITS TOTAL $43,500
Farm Bureau's full farm protection program and benefits do not stop at Farmowners or Workmen's Compensation coversages. From April 1, 1967 to March 31, 1968, 45 families have received $43,700 in Workers' Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefits. This Community Service group program, which initially enrolled 44,573 members, now totals approximately 50,000 in all but two Michigan counties.濉twa county Farm Bureau families alone received $4,250 in Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefits.

Farm Bureau's job is to protect farmers. That's why experienced development specialists are constantly searching for the best methods to fully guarantee consistent success in the world's toughest business.

This week you'll receive a dividend.
Over 700 different Crop Reports are released yearly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Here is a close look at how they are compiled and what they are designed to

Their Preparation and Meaning

Information from the reporters is examined for obvious error at the state office of the reporting service and is placed on electronic data system cards for summation and evaluation. Here it is combined with information from other sources and a tentative estimate of the state data is prepared and submitted to the Crop Reporting Board at the USDA.

At the USDA, data sheets for a given crop from all the producing states are combined and evaluated by a group of specialists. All the data submitted by the farmer is treated as highly confidential and is carefully protected all along the line in processing.

The security of this information at the USDA is highly guarded, because advance knowledge of the estimate could distort the markets for speculators in some of the future markets.

WHAT ABOUT ACCURACY?

There have been times when the reports have appeared to be somewhat in error, but there are ways to revise or correct some of these estimates. One of these methods is the use of the Census of Agriculture, which comes every five years, to make a comparison with the estimates. Sometimes the estimates are in error, but they generally are not over 2 or 3 percent out of agreement with the census figures.

Were more money available, it's very probable that more accurate reports might be produced. Can we afford the extra millions they would cost nation-wide? Then, too, could we risk the elimination of the volunteer reporter has continued to this day it was in the early days.

Today the crop reporting services of the USDA and cooperating states jointly produce over 700 different reports each year. Some are on an annual basis, others are monthly or quarterly.

HOW CROP REPORTS ARE MADE

Crop and livestock reports depend primarily on two sources of information: regular farmer-reports and part-time enumerators. About 1,400 cooperating farmers are on the monthly reporter list in Michigan. The concept of the volunteer reporter has continued to this day although the system is much more elaborate than it was in the early days.

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Farm Bureau’s Hog Program is like Money in the Bank

The Byrum farm (left) has gone 100% for the Farm Bureau Services hog feeding program. Richard Byrum (upper right) is one who believes that Farm Bureau’s hog program is like money in the bank and he feeds 400 hogs. In the lower photo, Phil Holland, FBS Feed Field Representative discusses the hedging program with L. D. Marquedant, of Leslie, a long time Farm Bureau Services hog feeder.

IMPROVED PRACTICES CAN INCREASE PORK PRODUCTION BY 50 PER CENT!

To meet the needs of today’s farmer, Farm Bureau Services once again leads the way, offering you the most complete hog program ever devised. You get everything you need for profitable hog production: guaranteed building, equipment, hogs, feed and medications, all of which can be financed and insured; you have a guaranteed market through our hedging program and Farm Bureau Services’ trained experts are always on hand to get you started in business and to help keep you in business. Decades of experience and service, research farms across the country and modern quality-controlled feed mills all combine to give you the greatest opportunity ever offered to hog raisers. The package is yours... open it today and have profits tomorrow!

The FBS hedging program is one of the most significant developments in hog marketing... Get the facts today!

FARM BUREAU Services

4000 N. GRAND RIVER

LANSING, MICHIGAN
EMPLOYEE ACCIDENTS!
A SUMMERTIME HAZARD

Even though you're safety-conscious, accidents can still occur. As a success in the world's toughest business . . . you're a good planner. You have to be. And planning for those open-end employee hazards includes a Farm Bureau Insurance Group Workmen's Compensation Policy . . . no matter how big or small your farming operation.

Large farms, medium-sized farms and smaller agribusinesses can be protected with total Farm Bureau Workmen's Compensation coverage, suited to specific needs.

For more information about Farm Bureau's unique Workmen's Compensation programs, fill out the form on the right and find out about . . .

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION...A STEP BEYOND FULL PROTECTION

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE GROUP

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION about Farm Bureau Workmen's Compensation Program. Especially for:
☐ Large Farming Operations
☐ Medium-Sized Farms
☐ Smaller Agribusinesses

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
Phone No. _________________________
City ____________________________ Zip Code ___________

Please cut out and Mail:
COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
Farm Bureau Insurance Group
4000 N. Grand River Avenue
To: Lansing, Michigan 48904