LOCAL AFFAIRS

Detergent, choking a river—a local pollution problem;

Junkyard, choking a village—zoning eyesore;

Tumble-down jail, unable—to hold the desperate;

Ambulance, not there when YOU need it.

These are Local Affairs. They need YOUR attention.

YOU must help—if if they are to change.

YOU are Farm Bureau. These are YOUR Farm Bureau.....

LOCAL AFFAIRS.
**Editorial**

**URBAN SPRAWL**

Several groups of Michigan dairymen have made recent trips to California to see for themselves how the highly concentrated dairy industry of that bustling state has specialized.

There, encroaching city complexes and high land prices have brought problems which Michigan farmers face heading for certain. Orange county—"the Los Angeles milk shed, is a dramatic example of what happens when dairy cows begin to rub shoulders with chickens and cows (and orange groves) for space.

The orange groves were chopped down long ago, but became a good supply of fresh milk is important to the Orange County dairy herd. At the same time, people recognized this fact; the dairy herds held on after the trees were removed. It was eventually found that the dairy cows compacted into a few acres of feedlot, serviced by some form of mechanized milking parlor, and just across the road from fine city dwellings valued at $50,000 to $75,000.

The cows were there first and for a time most zoning ordinances took this into account. All was well for the first eight or ten years, then, more and more people moved in. They didn't like the noise, they didn't like the smell and they didn't like the hours that cows and cowkeepers kept. One day, they declared the cows to be a nuisance.

The non-farm old-timers joined the newcomers in the city. Burished, the bovine population moved to 60 miles away, to the edge of the desert.

The next problem was a problem, lack of shade was a problem and lack of farm labor was the worst problem of all.

New wells were drilled and reservoirs were filled, but the dairies were still losing money. Feed mills were set up by the farmers who survived by doing much as the desert creatures themselves do—by finding a place to hide.

All of which is a fascinating story to Michigan farmers, many of whom see the handwriting on their own urban cows' tails.

Many Michigan farmers find the city reaching out to their feedlots and the neighbors wrinkling their noses at what the springtime winds bring.

Sometimes the smell of money is on the wind, and this not all bad; people pressures bring money pressures, and once largely useless farm lands are put up as prime subdivision acreage, providing the best crop that farmer ever had.

If the land being used is poor and sandy, that's fine, for Michigan has a large prime farmland, that's another. There is only so much land for any purpose," observes Bernard Kalus, beef feeder near Howell in Livingston county. "I don't see that the acres of the nearby city have begun to reach.

But a subdivision is a one-time crop—and what the farmer wants to farm, not subdivide—What about land values grossly inflated by the very possibility of subdivision— but without buyers of any kind in sight. What kind of farm crops can pay tax assessments, boosted sky-high in anticipation of future values?

We recommend legislation that will protect prime agricultural lands and require assessors to consider only agricultural factors in assessing land used for that purpose ...." wrote voting delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau at last fall's annual meeting.

Farmers feel that proper tax structure can do much to save better farm lands for future food production, enhancing the open spaces which most people require for a healthier atmosphere.

For farmers, Michigan's farming future there are those in both the House and Senate of our legislature who realize that the folly of unforeseen land use often becomes apparent only after it's too late.

These far-sighted people can be counted on to introduce and support bills to carry out Farm Bureau resolutions for future land use based on actual ... all the people's idea of a possible non-farm use.

—Melvin Wooll

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**WOODWARD**

**maple syrup time...**

Soon, it will be wake-up time for the great out-of-doors starting at our house with maple syrup making.

I received a letter from Virginia Smith, chairman of the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee, recently, suggesting I write to you about the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee, Mr. Jack Lynn, from AFBF, said, "1969 offers the best opportunity in a good many years for Farm Bureau philosophy to be reflected in legislation enacted by Congress. To take full advantage of this favorable Congressional climate, the interest and active support of county Farm Bureaus across the nation is essential — active support through letters, telegrams, phone calls and personal visits from Farm Bureau members at the grass roots.

Virginia said that the AFBWB Committee would like each County Chairman to talk to their County President, or County Board, offering the services of the women on Policy Executive Committees, National Affairs Committees, Sentinel Programs — in any and all committee work and activities that are a part of your county program and to help implement Farm Bureau Policy at both state and national level.

It's time to get those reservations in for our Washington Legislative Seminar. This is a good way to get to know your representatives and senators in Washington. For that you will be sent an American Heritage, we want you to go with us too, but don't forget those Legislative leaders in your county.

It will be planting time down on the farm and I thought I'd leave the thoughts in this little poem with you for some planting that each of us can do.

Lord, make me an instrument of thy Peace... Where there is hatred, let me sow Love... Where there is injury, let me give Light... Where there is sadness, let me sow Joy.

—Mrs. Jerold (Maxine) Topliff

**Editorial: PUNCH BOWL BROKE**

**MICHIGAN FARM NEWS**

On the 7th of March we celebrate the 20th birthday of the founding of Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance. In 1949, Farm Bureau Mutual leaders went out on a charter drive and sold 3,000 charter policy applications to get the new company going.

A need for better farm insurance protection was recognized almost from the beginning days of Farm Bureau, but farmers of that time were afraid to tackle it on their own.

Instead, seven years after the Michigan Farm Bureau got underway in 1919, contractual arrangements were made to ensure that our members could get farm-tailored coverage with an already established company.

At first nobody knew much about insurance. And it wasn't long then before Farm Bureau folks began talking about starting their own insurance companies to build more special features into their policies—so they would better fit farming needs.

Shortly after that, Farm Bureau Mutual was born.

How well it was built and how solidly it has grown, how well it has served farmers, is the third consecutive semi-annual dividend just recently paid to auto policyholders of Farm Bureau Mutual, and amounting to about $300,000.

As soon as the success of Farm Bureau Mutual was assured, a study was made by management and it was found that if Michigan farmers needed and could get adequate farm liability insurance.

Since only a few commercial companies were then offering liability to farmers—it became apparent that this area was wide open and a real need existed.

In January, 1950, Farm Bureau insurance was authorized to write general liability, and in the first year of that policy, the mutual paid $1,000,000 to farmers in claims, and set aside $375,000.

The immediate success of this stock and charter drive and the birth of the new company, testify to a great farm need and to how well that need was met.

Said the Michigan Mutual Mutual, "We will never stop building to keep up with the times. We will keep working to build the best insurance policies for our members. When it is necessary, we will build national strength to protect our mutual's members. When it is necessary, we will build new products for our members. When it is necessary, we will build nationwide service to the members."

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DOUBLE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME DEFEATED—unless

fast-time loss is declared official!

Newspaper reports have declared it to be official: "Fast-Time has lost in Michigan!" Michigan will stay on Eastern Standard Time, April 27, when daylight saving time begins for nearly all other Americans... declared the Detroit Free Press after the State Board of Canvassers certified a recount of votes cast in the November 5th election.

It is a nice feeling to think that farmers and Farm Bureau, joined by hundreds of thousands of city folks who also thought fast-time silly, have won—once again.

Unless, that is, a bill introduced in the state legislature by Lansing Representative, Thomas L. Brown (R) to repeal the 1967 law exempting Michigan from DST, were to pass. A two-thirds favorable vote would be needed to make daylight saving effective this summer. It hardly seems possible that such an action of the legislature could come about—but farmers are mindful that within our governmental system, one legislature (or one Congress) cannot bind the actions of another. What the legislature has given, the legislature can also take away. Right now, passage of such a Daylight Saving Time bill seems doubtful—unless.

Michigan will remain on Eastern Standard time—unless the action by two Grand Rapids law students, who have petitioned the Court of Appeals to nullify the November vote, causes the Daylight Saving Time issue to once again be placed on the ballot.

Michigan will NOT go on fast-time this year, unless those who support Double Daylight Saving time care so little for the wishes of voters that they will take the whole issue to Washington, D.C., and appeal to the officials of the Department of Transportation, which has authority regarding such things as time-zones.

Reports the Detroit Free Press: "While the issue was apparently set at rest for this year and next, fast-time backers considered a petition drive to get it back on the ballot in 1970. Harry E. Hall, president of the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce, said collection of signatures would not start before consideration of a petition drive to get it back on the ballot in 1970. Fast-time backers have petitioned the Court of Appeals to nullify the November vote, somehow to somehow have the ballot issue set at rest for this year and next, fast-time backers..."

Meanwhile, County Farm Bureau leaders deserve high commendation for their work during the recent period. Farm Bureau folks were impressed! Legislative Counsel, Robert Smith and Dale Sherwin say: "No other organization could have done this job..."

THE CROWN CLUB

THEY ARE ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS of the President’s Conference is the handing out of the Gold Crowns to County Farm Bureau Presidents and Membership Chairmen, worn in recognition that their ‘counties have made its membership goal. Those attending the Conference and ‘reporting in’ included: seated, 1 to 7, Carl Anderson, Muskegon; Harvey Gosen, Saginaw; and Carl Conrad, Saginaw. Seated, 1 to 7, second row, Walter Franz, Saginaw; Ed Broadworth, Arenas; Rocky Rhinhold, Saginaw and Frank Schwiderson, Chippewa. Standing, 1 to 7, Pete Lutz, Manistee; Ken Bull, Muskegon; Tom Kop, Arenas, Harvey Leuenberger, Saginaw, Ben Veliquette, Antrim; Alvin Shearer and Jake Wolford, both of Gladwin County.

Golden Opportunity

If Michigan County Farm Bureau members have their way, their president, Elton R. Smith, will be receiving one of the coveted "Gold Coats" at the 1969 American Farm Bureau Federation’s meeting next fall. President Smith’s coat would be in recognition of his state having met its membership goal this year, Michigan Farm Bureau and AFBF’s Golden Anniversary year!

Michigan Farm Bureau is one big step closer to being a winner in the state-wide membership drive, needing only 1712 members to meet the state-set goal. Charles L. Burkett, Director of Field Operations, reports that "we are 96.73 percent of goal, having 51,981 members. Of this total figure, 2317 are new members and 48,664 renewals. In 1968 we had 2224 new members and 48,854 renewals. At that time we were aiming for 2041 additional members to make goal."

Twenty five counties have made goal. Included in this list are Antrim, Mac-Luce, Chippewa, Charlevoix, Saginaw, Manistee, Gladwin, Muskegon, Arenas, Montcalm and Oscoda. Others are Washtenaw, Kent, Clare, Missaukee, North-West, Ottawa, Jackson, Benzie, Macomb, Calhoun, Alpena, Ionia, Huron, and Kalamazoo.

According to Burkett, Michigan and Ohio are continuing their exciting membership race. Michigan is more than anxious to pass along the well-known "Tail End" trophy to Ohio by "beating" them.

County Farm Bureau officials attending the President’s Conference at Camp Kett recently, readily admitted that "a good campaign manager is necessary to direct a goal-buster drive and we seem to have the kind that are needed."

President has paid off, and the increase, both in new and renewals, proves it. To take a line from a well-known television start: "Keep those memberships coming in. Folks! WE READ AND LOVE EVERY ONE OF THEM!"
Heavy attendance has marked the first three of eight Legislative Seminars sponsored by the Public Affairs Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau for county State and National Affairs committees.

"Judging from the first three of the series, the Seminars are filling a real need in briefing Farm Bureau leaders on current and expected actions of the legislature, and in bringing them together with their Representatives" reports MFB Legislative Counsel, Robert Smith. Every member of each State Affairs Committee is invited to attend.

Smith and co-Counsel, Dale Sherwin, handle the legislative briefings at each session, bringing the Farm Bureau leaders up to the minute on current legislative affairs, including behind-the-scenes position reports on important Farm Bureau issues.

A considerable amount of time has been spent on tax matters — an issue of grave concern for most farmers, especially at this time of year. Tax-reform progress is reported in detail, along with possible farm labor laws and proposed changes in school finances.

Following the morning briefing sessions, a luncheon is arranged with county committee-members hosting their Representatives. In the first two seminars held this year, a total of 24 House and Senate members shared luncheon with their constituents and each reported the work of their assigned legislative committees.

Seminars to be held in March include: March 11: Saginaw Valley Region, counties of Arenac, Bay, Gladwin, Gratiot, Midland and Saginaw.

March 12: Central Region, for the counties of Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, Livingston, Oakland and Shiawassee.

March 19: Northeast, Northwest and Upper Peninsula regions, including these counties: Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Emmet, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Otsego, Presque Isle, Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee, Northwest and Wexford; Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Houghton, Iron, Mackinac-Luce, Marquette, Alger and Menominee.


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March 26: West Region: Counties of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa.
HOW Wool Growers Keep From Getting Clipped

For over fifty years the Ohio Wool Growers Association has been offering cooperative wool marketing services to thousands of sheep owners. In recent years other wool cooperatives have also made use of the Ohio based wool coop's marketing facilities. Wool growers may consign their wool to the annual pool, or if they prefer they may sell outright at a cash price.

Approximately ten years ago a group of Michigan sheepmen requested Ohio Wool Growers Association make available it's services to Michigan and as a result the Coop set up various representatives to serve all sheepmen. A considerable volume of Michigan wool has been handled in the past few years. An effort is being made by the Coop to establish additional handlers and representatives so that co-operative wool marketing can be available to most of Michigan's wool producers.

At the Coop's recent Annual Meeting, where about 250 members and delegates were in attendance, the Manager, Paul A. Getz, reported that 1968 had been a very successful year for wool consignors. Their net returns for good staple wool ran from 8% to 9% more than the local purchase price at shearing time in 1968. These growers also will receive considerably more on their government incentive payment.

Average margins in 1968 were about 5% on every pound of wool consigned, which included lamb wools, short clothing types and all reject grades such as burry, black and so forth. Con- signed wool money.

An orderly marketing program to serve all sheepmen throughout the year. Offer advance cash payments on consigned clips or full market prices at shearing.

The grading of wool to reflect value to sheepmen according to quality and to meet the requirements of the textile trade.

An efficient warehouse and marketing operation to provide maximum returns to growers.

A continuing program of education to help sheepmen improve their returns from wool and lamb.

Work for future marketing improvement through promotion. Pursue a vigilant legislative program.

As one studies these objectives, it becomes easy to see that there is more to a successful marketing program than just getting a price for the product — important as this may be. "Ordinary marketing" was one of the objectives which helped to bring about the organization back in 1918. The Association gives the grower a choice of wool marketing and will handle the wool on consignment or if the grower prefers, an outright purchase. If he chooses to consign, the grower is advanced purchase.

The Ohio Wool Growers Association is a member of the National Wool Marketing Corporation in Boston. This makes it possible for the Ohio growers to have the advantages of an industry-wide sales service, as well as up-to-the-minute market information from the nerve center of the wool industry.

In addition to wool storage and marketing, the Association offers a number of other services to sheepmen — one is a supply department which carries a full line of equipment and repair parts. They also handle instruments, exhibitors supplies and the recommended drenches and dips for parasite control.

The Association is controlled and operated by policy set by a thirty member board of directors. A director is elected by the sheepmen in various districts of the state. The present Michigan director is Harold F. Brunner, Wayzata Trailer Ctr., 2900 N. Whittaker, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Any interested organizations or persons should make contact with the Ohio Wool Growers Association, 14600 Ely Rd., Manchester, Ohio 43227.

The Association will also furnish growers more information about cooperative wool marketing when requested.

WOOL ASSOCIATION GRADER — inspects a high quality premium "clip" from Michigan.

Ohio Wool Growers has developed an excellent reputation among the wool mills, which are located mostly in the east. For this reason, the Coop is able to deliver wool on grade description and receive good dividends in price.

When wool arrives at the warehouse in Columbus, it's handled by modern equipment which has greatly reduced costs. There is space to store several million pounds of wool at one time, which allows the Association to hold it and ship it to the mills in order to obtain the best prices.

The Coop has been a pioneer in developing better packaging and shipping methods. A portable bale compacts wool, attractive prices which average about 60% in size.

The Ohio Wool Growers Association in Michigan include:

Climax Farm Bureau, Robert Whaley, Mgr.; St. John's Coop, Elvin John Williams, Mgr.; Farm Bureau Service, Ward Witeman, Mgr.; Roger Brooks, Rt. 2, 14600 Ely Rd., Manchester, Harold F. Brunner, Wayzata Trailer Ctr., 2900 N. Whittaker, Mt. Pleasant, Raymond Hutchins, Rt. 3, Mount Pleasant; Gene Mater, Rt. 2, Nashville; Frank Myers, Rt. 1, Clare; Fern Payne, Rt. 4, Eaton Rapids; Ben Seely, Rt. 2, Redding; Oscar Taciia, Spruce; Carl Wiggins, 310 Parmenter Road, Durand.

An effort is being made to find more representatives to service all sheepmen in Michigan. Any interested organizations or persons should make contact with the Ohio Wool Growers Association, 14600 Ely Rd., Commander, Raymond Hutchins, Rt. 3, Mount Pleasant; Gene Mater, Rt. 2, Columbus, Ohio 43227.

The Association will also furnish growers more information about cooperative wool marketing when requested.

BUSY BUYERS — representing most major U.S. wool mills, are pictured at a recent sealed-bid sale, held in the Columbus warehouse — another useful tool in cooperative marketing.

Present representatives of the Association in Michigan include:


The Association will also furnish growers more information about cooperative wool marketing when requested.

MODERN WAREHOUSE — for Ohio Wool Growers' Association.

SPACE-SAVER — is this new, heavy-duty wool baler which compresses the fleece into storable 500-pound bales.

SPRINGTIME SCENE — when growers deliver wool to the warehouse. Deliveries range from one fleece to many thousands.
price increase means golden fleece...

Consumption of wool in United States, as well as world-wide, showed a healthy increase and the U. S. D. A. and the Wool Bureau predict it will continue some increase during the present year of 1969. World production, however, is also increasing a little and total stocks of wool are reported to be relatively large, with resultant slowing of the rise in prices that is normally expected in case of the increased demand.

The U. S. D. A. estimates a U. S. wool clip moderately under last year's 176 million pounds and the industry looks for a repetition of last year's good business to extend into 1969. It is expected too that there will be some relief on cloth imports from the Nixon Administration. Thus, we can look forward to seeing a reasonable amount of competition for the available wool.

Government reports seem to indicate a mildly stronger price tone in 1969.

At the time of this writing, some 1969 wool has been sold to the mills at slightly higher levels than a year ago. The mill buyers, however, have been very reluctant to pay higher prices and most of them are not yet ready to start adding to inventories. The high interest rates now facing the nation, could have a drastic effect on the buying policies of mills this year.

Many mill customers say they will probably buy wool this year as they need it, rather than carry a huge inventory as has been the custom in past years. If the high cost of money continues through the shearing season, growers may want to make wider use of storage and marketing facilities through pooling. Prevailing country prices in the fleece wool states (midwest) are starting in some areas about the same as last year, and in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, present prices seem to range from $2.50 to $3.50 for medium wool. The price is 4 to 5c higher on fine wool. The present advance on consigned wool is 25c. However, if the market strengthens, the advance will likely be raised.

The Wool Act, extended by Congress this past year, continues through 1970. The 1969 short wool support price has been set at 60 cts, which is 25c above last year. If the same formula is used for figuring the 1970 price, it could be raised to 72c.

SPRINGTIME SHAPES THE HARVEST....

MACMA SHAPES MARKET SUCCESS

JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE JOB OF PRUNING, ARE PLANS YOU MAKE NOW TO SHAPE THIS YEAR'S MARKET SUCCESS THROUGH THE RED TART CHERRY DIVISION OF MACMA, (the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association.)

INCREASE YOUR INCOME OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH A MEMBERSHIP IN MACMA!

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN:

SPRING IS MACMA SIGN-UP TIME!

-- Processing Red Tart Cherries, Apples, Vegetables, Asparagus, Grapes --

TO THE EDITOR:

In the January edition of your paper there was a poem printed on page 4, which was recited by Harold Sponburg at the Michigan Farm Bureau Institute.

It was titled "I am only one" — author unknown.

That author was Nathan Hale, the great American patriot.

I believe every American should recite this poem every day of his life. Yes, I am only one, but I do my share to preserve my country. Everyone else should too.

How much longer can we allow the Communist to run our Republic (not Democracy?) Cesar Chavez is doing a huge job with the grape boycott (with the help of Walter Reuther) — I sure hope the Michigan farmers can be made to see through this brainwashing!

Louise Behrendt (Mrs.) Garden City, Michigan

Thanks for your interesting comment concerning both the poem and the grape boycott. See page 15 for a full report in the grape propaganda war.

Because we too think Nathan Hale’s poem should be recited frequently, we are reprinting it, suggesting our readers pause at the void to reflect that a member of the Michigan legislature would nullify the votes of bet then half of Michigan’s citizens who opposed Daylight Savings Time — because, in his opinion, the margin opposing it was not great enough....

I AM ONLY ONE

I am only one;
But I am one.
I cannot do everything
But I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do:
And what I ought to do,
By the grace of God,
I will do.
— Nathan Hale
March 1, 1969

PLANT MANAGER NAMED

More than 15 years of experience in feed-mill operation is the solid background of Paul D. Mullineaux, newly named Plant Manager for Farm Bureau Services' new Battle Creek mill. Mr. Mullineaux comes to the new work from Frankfort, Indiana. While awaiting the scheduled June 1 opening, he is becoming acquainted with farmers and dealers of the area. The million-dollar plant is being financed by public sale of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., debentures. When completed it will be one of Michigan's most up-to-date milling and feed formulating centers.

HOW MUCH CORN DID YOU PUT AWAY IN 1968?

Chester Metz farms 700 acres in the Ida, Michigan, area and the Ida Co-op is his local dealer. To get his yield of 120 bushels per acre, Mr. Metz used certified seed, 300 lbs. of Farm Bureau Special Corn Starter Fertilizer per acre and side dressed with 130 actual units of nitrogen.

Chester Metz Put Away 120 Bushels Per Acre!

Farm Bureau Services PLAN-A-YIELD program is tailor-made for each farmer, farm, field, crop and yield goal. Our trained specialists assist you in your effort to achieve more profit with less labor. Produced in Saginaw and Kalamazoo, our fertilizer is quality controlled throughout its manufacturing process, to assure you of getting the most from your money. See your local dealer for details or send us a post card and our specialists will show you the whole program.

If you want bulk blend fertilizer at a lower price per ton contact our outlets at Remus, Coldwater, Marcellus, Lapeer and Chesaning.

FACTORY VERSUS FAMILY

Are "factory" farms squeezing family farms out of business? William H. Scofield, agricultural economist, economic research service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, says "no." Addressing the recent National Farm Institute at Des Moines, Scofield said a department survey showed that corporations account for only 1 percent of all commercial farms in the nation and nearly 80 percent of these corporations are family or "one man" enterprises.

Scofield pointed out that many family farms have incorporated because of inheritance taxes and problems involved in transferring ownership of farms within families.

Another speaker, Neal E. Harl, professor of economics, Iowa State University, voiced an opinion, based on recent studies, that on the basis of size, well-organized, well-financed and well-managed family farms can compete successfully with larger operations using outside capital.

Another side of the issue discussed at the Institute dealt with tax treatment of farming "losses" of non-farm interests.

Many people believe that there is a need to restrict the deduction of farm losses from non-farm income.
Following a theme of "Farm Bureau Women in Action," the Michigan Farm Bureau Women of Districts 1 and 2, have planned two days of learning and interest for those attending Holiday Camp at Wesley Woods Methodist Camp March 26 and 27. The guests . . . all Farm Bureau Women are invited . . . will see a film, "Time and Two Women" and hear about "Breast Self-Examination." This discussion will be led by a Calhoun County Cancer Society representative and a doctor or nurse. After the Wednesday luncheon, LeRoy F. Smith, Assistant Personnel Safety Superintendent, Consumers Power Company, Battle Creek, will discuss "The Pulse of Life." "Women Partners in Farm Bureau" will be the subject of Helen Atwood's talk, leading into "Adventures in Collecting." (aniques, no less) as narrated by Mrs. Leo White. 

Robert Smith, Legislative Counsel for Michigan Farm Bureau, will outline "What Legislation Means to Farmers." Another subject that is receiving a lot of attention lately, narcotics, will be discussed by Detective Allen Pols, Battle Creek Police Department. Detective Pols will also show a film relative to the subject.

Mrs. Mary Jane Sears, a familiar face at Holiday Camp, will give another one of her interesting book reviews and Mrs. Maxine Topliff, Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committee Chairman, will review the two days program. Reservations must be made at Miss Atwood's office by March 13. The total cost is $7.75 (to be paid at the time of registration) for four meals, overnight and registration. Individual meals may be purchased for guests and those wishing to attend part of the two days program. An attendance prize will be given to the county having the most participants in the two day camps. Please use the printed reservations.

Michigan Farm Bureau Women will have an opportunity to display their prize winning Needlecraft contest entries at the State Annual Meeting in November, according to a newly named Needlecraft Committee. Mrs. Ann Campos is chairman. Members of the committee are: Mrs. Mary Edith Anderson, Mrs. Florence Carpenter, Mrs. Claudine Jackson, Mrs. Hattie Lockhart and Mrs. Maxine Topliff.

Sewing, embroidery, rug making and any type of article done will be eligible for entry. All categories but will be limited to one entry per category at county level. All decisions will be made at a county or district level and not any prizes will be given at a state level. The only state level activity will be the display of winning articles at the Annual Meeting.

Further information will be given in the Michigan Farm News and will be available from Committee Members.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

"The strength of Farm Bureau springs first from the strength of its local membership. Much of the work of Farm Bureau should be done by these members, locally." (from policy statements, Michigan Farm Bureau)
SAFEETY EMBLEMS BEING MISUSED?

It's only a small piece of metal . . . measures 16 x 14 inches, covered with an orange and red highly reflective covering, but it is designed to save lives. There are rules for the installation of this emblem, known as the Slow Moving Vehicle emblem . . . and the disregard of these rules can cost a loss of life the same as when we had no ruling.

In 1966 the State Legislature decided that our farm machinery related deaths were going as high in number as they wanted them to. In fact, they were going too high. So they followed the plan as set up in other states throughout the country and passed a law . . . House Bill No. 2867, an amendment to Section 659 of No. 390 of the Public Acts of 1949, regarding (in part) "an act to provide for the registration, titling, sale and transfer and regulation of vehicles upon the public highways of this state, etc."

Since many of the accidents involved tractors, slow moving vehicles such as trailers, wagons and other farm machinery, the amendment asked for the special insignia "to be used on vehicles that had a maximum potential speed of 25 miles per hour upon the public highways of this state." Said vehicle (an implement of husbandry, farm tractor or special mobile equipment) shall be identified with a reflective device as follows:

"An equilateral triangle in shape, at least 16 inches wide at the base and at least 14 inches in height, with a red border, at least 1 3/4 inches wide of highly reflective material; a center triangle, at least 12 1/2 inches on each side of yellow-orange fluorescent material. The device shall be mounted on the rear of the vehicle, broad base down, not less than three nor more than 5 feet above the ground and as near the center of the vehicle as possible. The use of this reflective device is restricted to use on slow moving vehicles, specified in this section, and use of such reflective device on any other type of vehicle or stationary object on the highway is prohibited.

On the rear of the vehicle, on each side, red reflectors or reflective material visible from all distances within 500 to 50 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps."

Research recently completed proved that 9 out of 10 collisions of vehicles carrying the SMV emblem occurred during daylight hours on good roads, free of rain, snow or ice hazards. Two thirds of these accidents occurred on state and federal highways; over half of the collisions happened on open, level highways and the SMV was hit from the rear in two thirds of the accidents. Two thirds of the fatalities and injuries from moving vehicles and slow moving vehicles accidents occurred and involved farmers who had intended to travel less than one mile on the highway.

Everyone is prone to stretch a point . . . if the law reads on a slow moving vehicle; some one is sure to think it's alright to mount it on their barn or mailbox because the law did not read that it cannot be done. This misuse takes away the effectiveness of the emblem . . . it is designed for use on a public road or highway as a sign of warning to a motorist who is approaching from the rear and may come up suddenly behind the SMV (slow moving vehicle.)

How effective has the SMV emblem been? In 1966 there were 196 car-farm machinery highway accidents compared with 154 in 1967 . . . in other words, 21% fewer accidents. There will be less as soon as farmers realize that the emblem is not to be hung upside down . . . used on the back of the pick-up truck just going to town for staples . . . or hang on their mailboxes.

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CONSUMER... 
meets PRODUCER

By Margaret G. McCall

"Consumer Meets Producer," theme of recent Michigan State fairs, typifies some of the problems and potential solutions currently facing agriculture. Many farmers believe that seldom have consumer and producer met to discuss their interests and develop cooperative assistance.

Since the Michigan Department of Agriculture plays a dual role in protecting the interests of both consumers and producers, a name-change within the Department may help to bridge the gap of understanding. The Regulatory Bureau of the Department has become the Bureau of Consumer Protection, to more clearly identify its functions.

Agriculture, as Michigan's second largest industry, has an almost immeasurable impact upon the state's economic well-being. By joining hands with consumers and working together in a common effort to provide our citizens with plentiful, wholesome food products at reasonable cost, agriculture can establish a new and effective alliance, resulting in greater strength and increased benefits to both producers and consumers.

Farmers need to see the advice of the buying public in merchandizing their products. Consumers need to become aware of the vital role agriculture plays in supplying them with milk. Latest figures indicate food costs the American housewife only 18 cents of every dollar. Her counterpart in Russia must allocate more than 50 percent of the family income to food products.

B. Dale Ball, director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, estimates that about 75 percent of the Department's work involves a wide range of services to consumers, while approximately 25 percent deals directly with producers.

Historically, these functions of the Department which involve enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to agricultural products have been designated as part of the Regulatory Bureau, but there has been no public indication of what was being "regulated." With the name change, the Bureau's services to Michigan residents is more apparent.

It is almost impossible to separate some direct consumer benefits from those for producers. For example, programs for eradication of brucellosis are of direct benefit to producers. But indirectly they are of at least equal value to consumers, since brucellosis is the source of undulant fever in humans.

A classic example of such mutually beneficial projects is the cattle backtagging program providing early detection of brucellosis. Adult female cattle are tagged at time of sale, and a blood sample is collected by the Department meat inspector when the animal is shipped. The blood sample, enclosed in a plastic bag, accompanies the carcass through the entire processing. If blood analysis indicates infection, the back tag provides immediate identification of the owner and the herd in which the infected animal originated is tested. Program which provide protection to consumers also safeguard Michigan's farmers.

Divisions within the new Bureau of Consumer Protection remain the same as in the former Regulatory bureau: Animal Health, Dairy, Food Inspection, Laboratory, and Plant Industry. Dr. George Whitehead, deputy director in charge of the bureau, emphasized that personnel will continue to carry out the regulatory functions of the department.

Animal Health division administers 22 laws and 33 regulations. In addition to state-wide meat inspection services, involving enforcement of more than 200 laws and regulations, the Department assures Michigan housewives that they "can buy with confidence" the products grown and produced in our state.

This division also checks the accuracy of all weighing and measuring devices used in sale of commodities, to insure that consumers get full measure. Farmers, in their role as consumers, have an equal right to a full gallon of gasoline at the service station, a 50-pound bag of seed when that's what they purchase.

Food Inspection division enforces nearly 100 laws and regulations are enforced. Inspection of sanitary conditions in all types of food establishments, checking labels for false, misleading and deceptive advertising, seizing violative products to prevent sale of misbranded, adulterated or decomposed foods are among its responsibilities.

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Volume Discount Sale

Save On Oils, greases, Filters

The More You Order... ...The More You Save!

Take advantage of this Volume Discount Sale on all motor oils, hydraulics and gear and transmission oils at your local participating Farmers Petroleum dealers and agents. Order now for big savings and take delivery anytime before May 1, 1969.

BIG DISCOUNTS ON GREASES, TOO!

We're offering bargain prices now on our complete line of greases. This is the time to get everything ready for the first sign of spring.

Ask your local Farmers Petroleum man about our farm tire sale!

FARMERS PETROLEUM

4000 N. GRAND RIVER
LANSING, MICHIGAN
MARTIN - MAFC GUEST

At an unusual luncheon meet-
ing held in Lansing recently, the
Michigan Association of Farmer
Cooperatives hosted Dr. Blanche
Martin, newly elected Trustee at
Michigan State University.

Dr. Martin shared in the lively
discussion of farmer-cooperatives
and modern farming, and showed
remarkable insight into the
changes now shaping agriculture.

Dr. Martin was named "All
American" for two years and in
1958 was co-captain of the Michi-
gan State University Spartans. He
is a practicing dentist in East Lan-
sing, is married and lives in the
community.

Dr. Martin fully realizes and
accepts the importance of his new
post as a trustee on one of the
county's largest universities and of
the many responsibilities and au-
thority governing such a position.

Foremost among their duties is
the selection of a new University
president to replace Dr. John
Hamaw who recently resigned to
take a position with the federal
government.

Almost without exception, these
youngsters are from Farm Bureau
homes. Each received an educa-
tional award trip to Detroit and
Ontario, in late February.

Selections were made by a com-
nittee of the Farmers and Manu-
facters Beet Sugar Association,
with guidance from both Michi-
gan State University's 4-H pro-
gram and the Michigan FFA.

Receiving awards were: Kent
Houghtaling, son of Mr. and Mrs.
Allen Houghtaling, of Reese, Mich.;
Jack and Robert Knochel, sons of
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Knochel, Kawkau-
nin, Mich.; Pat Roedel, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Roedel, Fran-
kemont; Scott Carruthers, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Carruthers,
Standish, and Thomas Schian, son
of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Schian,
Saginaw. All families are members
of Farm Bureau.

Other winners include: Lois
Schleder, daughter of Mr. and
Mrs. George Schleder, Farm Bu-
reau members of Ithaca, and John
Jessup, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry
Jessup, also of Ithaca.

Winners from the Caro area in-
clude: Daniel Buchinger, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buchinger,
Reese; Judy Campbell, daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. Blanford Cam-
pbell, Fairgrove; Rickey Russell,
son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Russell,
Axeon; Stuart Bierlein, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Bierlein, all
members of the Tuscola county
Farm Bureau.

Other winners include Bill
Palm, son of Mr. and Mrs. George
Palm, Reese, Mich., and Edward
Dundas, son of Mr. and Mrs.
Edward Dundas, Bridgeport.

Ann Marie Hetzner, daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Hetzner,
Saginaw; and Susanne Simons,
dughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford
Simons, Saginaw. Both families
are members of the Saginaw Farm
Bureau.

Others on the list of 27 winners
are: Harold Blaine, son of Mr.
and Mrs. William Blaine, Farm
Bureau members from St. Charles,
Mich.; Fred Gottschalk, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gottschalk.

Farm Bureau members of Filion
are: Richard Eber, son of Mr. and
Mrs. Frank Klee, Sr., Farm Bureau
members of Minden City; Luther
Mather, son of Mr. and Mrs.
Robert Markwort, Farm Bureau
members of Yale.

Receiving awards also were:
Kathy Miller, daughter of Mr. and
Mrs. Joe Miller, Yale; Duane Stock-
son, son of Mr. and Mrs. Al
Stevens, Capac.

Awards in the Sebewaing area
include: John Herford, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Claire Harrington,
Aquon; Tim Leipprandt, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leip-
prandt, Pigeon; Howard Riebig,
Sebewaing, and William Herford,
son of Mr. and Mrs. Welland Her-
ford, Elkton.

All families are members of the
Huron county Farm Bureau.
THEY DO MEET EARLY IN THE MORNING... not like their first 5 a.m. meeting but at 8:30 a.m. each Tuesday. A committee of eleven House of Representative members comprise the House Committee on Consumers and Agriculture. Chairman (seated, center) is Frank V. Vierzbicki. Also seated, 1. to r., Stanley M. Powell and Josephine D. Hunsinger. Standing, 1. to r., Edson V. Root Jr., Quincy Hoffman, Casmer P. Ogonowski, Wayne B. Sackett and Richard Allen. Not in the picture are Committee Members Thomas Guastello and Edward E. Mahalak.

PICKING TOPICS

“BLUE PLANS" SALUTE FARM BUREAU'S 50TH

FIRST IN LINE — at the recent county Farm Bureau office-secretary's Blue Cross and Blue Shield Seminar in Detroit, is Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith. Pinning on his name-tag is Mrs. Jenny Opper. The two-day conference dealt with advances in the health-care service fields.

TALKING ABOUT HOW IT USED TO BE — is MFB President, Elton Smith, flanked by Mich. Blue Cross president, Wm. McNary (left) and Direct-Bill Group manager, Edward Shadduck (right). Also seated to the right are Farm Bureau Secretary, Dan Reed and Mich. Blue Shield president, John McCabe. Earlier, the health officials saluted Farm Bureau's Golden Anniversary.

Kevyn Godley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Godley, Breckenridge, received double honors at the recent Gratiot County Dairy dinner from Dale Stoneman, County Farm Bureau president and Dennis LaFleur, president of the Gratiot County Bankers Association.
W. N. Guthrie, Executive Vice President of Farm Bureau Services and director of Cooperative Services, announced the acquisition of International Mineral and Chemical Corporation's phosphate complex in Bartow, Florida. In a joint statement with Guthrie, Services' President, Elton R. Smith, mentioned that the agreement with International Minerals calls for a wholly owned subsidiary of Central Farmers and C. F. Chemicals, Inc. to assume operating responsibility for the Florida complex and its personnel.

In addition to this latest acquisition, Central Farmers operates a number of manufacturing plants and has a substantial investment in marine terminals and other fertilizer distribution facilities. All of these are owned by Farm Bureau Services and 10 other cooperatives in the United States. "The transaction includes the phosphate fertilizer units and sulfuric acid plants at the 26,000-acre site west of Bartow," said Guthrie. One of the largest phosphate chemical facilities acquired by Central Farmers have an annual production capacity of 1,000,000 tons of concentrated phosphate fertilizer. The complex will be called The Bartow Phosphate Works.

"Completion of negotiations for this major manufacturing facility marks a significant step in securing the future of farmer cooperatives in the fertilizer industry and ensures cooperative patronage for many years," said Guthrie. In a joint statement with Elton R. Smith, Services' President. "This plant, together with other cooperative owned phosphate facilities, makes cooperatives virtually self-sufficient in the production of this vital plant food ingredient."

Lundberg noted that, consistent with the market needs of farmers in Canada, he would like to make a number of modifications to existent facilities, principally to increase the total output of the granular, triple superphosphate facilities, and a substantial investment will be made in all storage capacities.
FOURTEEN

Where We Are Now:

Economic climate. They must never forget the consumer — and the self-imposed discipline which will weld them together into one. "Farmers can no longer operate effectively as individual sellers in today's mass markets," says Robert Hampton of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. "Farmers must develop the economic and political strength to allow them to market as true 'negotiators,'" he said.

Charles Shuman, President of the American Farm Bureau, predicts that within 10 years, 50 per cent of total U. S. farm production will be under contractual arrangements. "This will ensure that the farmer's voice."

More recently, a highly specialized egg-marketing program was established under Farm Bureau's Egg Marketing Division, and is now operated by the Egg Marketing Division of Farm Bureau Services.

In 1960, Michigan Farm Bureau organized the Cherry Price Fixation Committee to ensure that the market price of cherries could be obtained by all producers, regardless of supply conditions. The committee acts to ensure that cherry growers receive a fair return for their efforts.

The direct approach was first used by Michigan Farm Bureau to establish a cherry price through the Michigan Cherry Producers cooperative, which was established and a staff member hired to work in this area. The obvious support and general encouragement which cherry growers of the state have allowed the new division to progress substantially — MACMA operations have broadened and two full time area representatives have been added.

Feeder Pig Program

Recently, the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors endorsed a MACMA feeder pig marketing program, which will allow producers to bargain for their livestock and rely on guidance for its marketing and bargaining services were available to all producer groups, remains unchanged in the seven years it has been in operation. The organization that the committee did not work out, in part because of lack of grower cooperation.

The proposed bill is at present being referred to the appropriate committees of the legislature. If passed, the bill will provide a framework for future action in this area. The obvious support and general encouragement given by cherry growers of the state has allowed the new division to progress substantially — MACMA operations have broadened and two full time area representatives have been added.

Feeders and Polluters among State Agencies

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It pays dividends for farmers and farm groups to get together. That mutual benefits comes from mutual understanding resulting from such meetings has been a theme for several recent joint meetings between the board of directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau and the boards of other important Michigan farm groups—the Michigan Milk Producers and the Michigan Livestock Exchange among them.

In welcoming the Farm Bureau directors, MMPA President Glenn Lake stressed the importance of agricultural strength through agricultural unanimity. "We need to know each other better as persons" he said in introducing the group "and we need to know each other better as organizations."

In responding, Elton Smith spoke for the Farm Bureau board, and said that there had been times in the past when agriculture was severely divided "both in Michigan and nationally." He indicated that some groups, organizational officials "and even some members of Congress like to see farmers fighting among themselves."

"There are those who think they even encourage it, because when farmers become occupied elsewhere, they can operate with a free hand and just shunt off their responsibilities toward agriculture."

Later, the groups spent an hour going over individual policy matters of importance to Michigan dairy farmers.

Michigan's "non-violent" grape boycott effort has now turned to open harassment with tactics of violence. No longer is it simply a propaganda war being waged against California grape workers and growers.

Lansing residents were witness, recently, to the change that can come over a "non-violent" boycott movement when it does not gain broad public support. Jose Mendoza, a California vineyard worker and head of the farm workers Freedom to Work Committee, explained to the delegates at the annual meeting of the Great Lakes Vegetable Growers Conference the broad scope of the California dispute.

"There has been every reason for fear. "They had windows broken, busted up radiators, flat tires, burned busses and trucks. These people were calling the workers at all hours of the night and all hours of the morning telling them not to go to work or else ... " Mendoza's group, the Freedom to Work Committee, is composed of vineyard workers who are opposed to the union effort.

When Mendoza spoke to the convention crowd, he made these points: (1) There is no true strike of workers employed by California farmers; (2) the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee does not represent table grape workers; (3) the union's effort to sign up table grape workers has failed; (4) faced with failure, the UFWOC is seeking to use food trade unions in the major cities to pressure retail food stores and produce wholesalers into a boycott of California grapes. That boycott is a lever to force farmers to sign closed shop contracts so they can regain their markets.

Underscoring the statements made by Mendoza to the vegetable growers have been a series of in-store harassments that have hit major Michigan food stores in recent weeks. The incidents are caused by persons apparently sympathetic to the union-inspired California grape boycott. One store has reported severe losses from damaged and spoiled food plus countless hours lost in replacing stock on the shelves that was left in abandoned grocery carts or sitting at random about the huge store by "shoppers."

In a Grand Rapids Press news story by Pete DeMaagd, these losses were coincidental with the appearance in the area of a grape boycott leader, who has apparently aimed harassment pressure at the supermarket chain.

DeMaagd reports that according to a store executive: "Would-be customers pick busy shopping times like Friday nights and Saturday to load up shopping carts, then leave them in the aisle and walk out."

"Or they go through the checkout lane to discover they don't have their wallets and have an employee shove the cart to one side with the idea they'll return for the goods. They never do."

"On a busy night, by the time unclaimed groceries are found, ice cream, frozen foods and perishables are spoiled and must be tossed out."

"As for those carts which don't get wheeled through checkout when they are unpacked it is discovered that sacks of flour have been placed on leaves of bread, crushing the bread. Or potato chips are smashed in the bag. Meat packages are slit, and flour or salt or seasonings dumped in."

Meanwhile it is reported that the supermarket chain will continue to offer California grapes for sale to its customers.

"Whether customers want to buy them or not, is up to the customer ... Each customer has his own right to this freedom of choice" a supermarket official is quoted in the Grand Rapids Press story.

GLENN LAKE—President of the Michigan Milk Producers Association reports progress to members of the combined MMPA and Michigan Farm Bureau boards at a recent joint meeting. Policy positions of the two groups were examined and compared in a question-and-answer discussion. A number of such self-review meetings have been held in past years, more are planned for the future . . . .

ENJOYING THEIR CHAT — are Farm Bureau board member Richard Wieland (left) and MMPA Vice President, Harold Blaylock, as they lead a group on tour of Mich. Milk's offices.

EXPLAINING THE LAYOUT — is MMPA General Manager, Jack Barnes (right) as Farm Bureau Dairy Specialist, Al Almy (left) and Mich. Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, look on.
Farm Bureau Insurance Group was born on March 7, 1949... 20 years ago. Next to 50-year-old Michigan Farm Bureau, the insurance operation is a toddler. Yet, in a short time, Farm Bureau Insurance Group's people, three companies and broad financial services have provided unusual service... guarding and developing the financial stability of Michigan's farm community.

And the future? Innovation remains the byword. Michigan's first Farmowners policy was introduced by Farm Bureau Insurance Group. Michigan's first total farm protection concept... AGROPLAN... will be introduced this year. Tomorrow's financial needs will change. Farm Bureau Insurance innovation will meet that change.