SLAVE AUCTION—sold, for one day of hard labor is Donald Ruhlig (left) Southeast Regional Representative for the Michigan Farm Bureau. Buyer, for $13,000 in bogus-bucks, was an area hog farmer, who intimated that he had just the right spring-time fork and shovel job in mind. The occasion was one in a statewide series of ten membership Victory Party "Auctions" where fake money earned by membership workers become legal-tender for the day.

AUCTIONEER DUANE DUNBAR, Lenawee Co. Farm Bureau member, had a busy day "selling" valuables in a 2-hour session typical of the regional auctions climaxing the membership year (additional story, page 13). Volunteer membership workers received $1,000 or more in the funny-money for each new member signed, plus similar payment for other Roll-Call work. The auction parties combined food and fun to repay work of volunteers with valuable prizes.

STAGE MEMBERSHIP GOAL IS REACHED!
topping 53,894 members at press time.

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amazing system

Michigan farmers have again discovered that Washington D.C. is a place that one must visit in order to believe.

The four o’clock rush hour, when thousands of government clerks and other employees fill the streets toward home, the hundreds of taxis everywhere — until you need one, the rows of impressive buildings (some with anti-aircraft defense) built into their sides — and the discriminate government method of getting things done, are all parts of the near-unbelievable.

“Now I know why a new President has trouble changing things much in just four years” said one of the 37 Farm Bureau legislative leaders after his first glimpse of the growing confidence of the government.

He had visited both Houses of Congress; benefited from attending formal briefings and hearings; and met and talked with his Congressman.

He came away with a feeling of amazement that the whole system works at all.

But work it does, and just how, when, and why — and the special part farm people have in our American government system, were some of the reasons back of the 9th annual air-trip to Washington sponsored by Farm Bureau Women in late March.

During the three days spent in the nation’s capital, selected legislative leaders had a breakfast to which Democratic members of Congress from Michigan were invited — a luncheon with Michigan newsmen covering the Washington heat, and another breakfast with Republican members of Congress from our state.

In between they attended a briefing conducted in the offices of the American Farm Bureau Federation, attended hearings and made calls on their Congressman.

“This is a protest group” President Elton R. Smith told Washington newspapermen. “We are here as a part of a continuing conversation between Michigan farmers and their Representatives.”

Farm Bureau Women had arranged the news conference and luncheon in the National Press Club in the heart of Washington to bring representative members of the group before newsmen whose areas of coverage included Michigan.

Present were news people from Time-Life, Booth Newspapers, Federation publications, Associated Press and the Michigan League of Home Dailies.

The women asked penetrating questions and discovered anew that farm people lead far from settled lives. Because Congress is expected to take a close look at farm-labor legislation this year, there was talk of what labor-union attempts to organize farm workers might mean.

“We are not opposed to labor union organization of farm workers — providing it is on a voluntary basis” said Eugene Roberts, a member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

“As a voluntary organization, Farm Bureau could hardly oppose our own kind of structure. But we think there is no place for competition in America,” he added.

Ray Anderson, a member of the state Wage Deviation Board, said that farmers must be protected from harvest-time harassment and strikes by labor by order. Other members of the group pointed out the near-failure of the California grape boycott, telling newsmen that very few farm workers had voluntarily joined the union in California.

There were a total of 96 persons involved in this year’s legislators’ “American Heritage” and “Legislative Leaders” luncheon luncheons, with the group split almost evenly between men and women.

Of the 37 legislative leaders (25 men, 12 women) a majority were dairy farmers and the fact they found it possible at all to take time away from their operations, spoke well for their management abilities.

Those who have watched and studied the development of the air-tour as an important phase of Farm Bureau’s policy development and policy execution programs, were pleased by the obvious professionalism — and forward outlook, of these people.

Melvin Woell

HOUSE MINORITY LEADER — Mich. Representative Gerald Ford, talks to Farm Bureau leaders at breakfast in the Speaker’s private dining room — in the Capitol.


6th DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE — Charles Chamberlain is shown visiting with Farm Bureau Legislative Leaders.

FARM BUREAU LEADERS... met with Don Parelberg, Economic Chief for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. From left, Pres. Eugene Roberts, Parelberg, Nick Smith and Dean Fridgeon.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

The MICHIGAN FARM NEWS is published monthly, on the first day of each month, by Michigan Farm Bureau, 30th Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504. Postal Box 901, Lansing, Michigan 48909. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Grand Rapids and at Lansing, Michigan under the Act of March 3, 1879. Second class postage paid at Greenville, Michigan.


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"Young Man With a Purpose" best describes Henry M. Jennings, 32-year-old farmer from Swartz Creek, who was recently named Michigan's Outstanding Young Farmer for 1969 by the State Jaycees and Central Soya, co-sponsors of this annual event.

Henry, his wife Linda and their three sons, Steven, Thomas and Peter, live on a 314-acre cash crop farm on W. Hill road in Mundy township, just a few miles out of Swartz Creek. The Jennings are Farm Bureau members, (Henry is a member of the Executive Committee of the Genesee County Farm Bureau Board of Directors) are active in their church as well as in other home and family-related areas.

In addition to the home site acreage, the Jennings rent and farm another 900 acres. This land is in four townships and the Jennings have selected a site two miles south of their present home to build a new home this summer.

Henry started planning years ago for his agricultural career. While in grade school, he was an active 4-H member, earned the Star Farmer degree in FFA in his high school days. His father had a livestock and crop farm just a few miles from where Henry lives now and by the time Henry was out of high school, he owned 70 acres of land ... which gave him his start. All the time Henry Jennings works his land, he is following a set plan. He works with one thought in mind ... "Plan your work and work your plan." This theory took root and as Linda says, "Every move he makes counts. I can almost see the wheels turning in his mind. He plans for the next month ... for the next season ... for the next year. He is definitely a student of farming and he knows his plan will work for us. We're all very proud of this honor ... it has given us further incentive to devote our lives to farming. This is our life."

The Jennings exemplify the slogan "The family that prays together ... stays together. They do this all the way through ... they pray together ... they work together ... they plan together, and as a family, they play together. After a spring and summer of planting and the fall harvesting, they vacation in the winter. The Jennings do not have any livestock on their farm. Henry says "There just isn't any place for livestock in my plan. I need every hour to concentrate on the cash crops and to make any plan work."

Henry has also taken some agriculture short courses at Michigan State University and is in his second year of the Kellogg Farmer's Study Program at MSU. Far and fore-sighted, Henry knows that this is a program geared to the farmer of today and tomorrow ... when not just the crop will be important, but that soon a farmer will not be able to make a living on a 40 or 60 acre farm but will have to specialize on a much larger basis.

"Modern scientific farming methods and modern equipment are necessary to make a success of farming today. At one time, all a farmer needed was a strong back, a patient wife who could help at any time and some hired help. I have the strong back and also a patient wife and with our three sons growing up, I hope we can install in them a love of the land as we have had it instilled in us."

The Jennings use the computer bookkeeping service offered by Michigan Farm Bureau, which, as they say "keeps it to a "T" and we always know where we are and how we got there." As a reward for this hard work, Henry Jennings will attend the National Outstanding Young Farmer meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota, April 7-9. Some 50 young men will be the center of attention at this "world series" of agriculture. From these 50 young men, will come the National Outstanding Young Farmer of America.

This month (beginning March 9) Henry joined a tour sponsored by the Kellogg program, which will take him across the nation to view other farming methods.

There's a pattern here ... all one has to do is follow it ... or set their own pattern. Farming is a vocation ... a life time of happiness and work (as any job can be) ... but the Jennings hope that other young couples will pick farming as a life time work. Just "plan your work and work your plan." It's not simple ... but simply wonderful as the Jennings have worked it.
"farm property taxation now at completely unrealistic levels"

The farmer is feeling the effects of inflation... and a proper assessment of farm land might bring some relief. Robert Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau's Legislative Counsel, told those attending a Michigan State Farmer's Week meeting on Resource Development and Parks Recreation Resources, recently.

Smith said the problem is well known... now its time to find some solutions. "It is simply that taxation of farm property has reached a completely unrealistic level compared to farm income. The inflationary spiral is one of the most important reasons for this ever-increasing inflation along with increasing costs resulting in a tightening of the cost price squeeze.

"Another major factor is the constant pressure of rising school costs on the property tax. In many areas, 70% or more of local taxes are school taxes... this in itself is a difficult problem because schools depend on tax money to operate.

"Many farm leaders are becoming concerned with the rapid disappearance of good agricultural land. Future leaders may look back at the folly of our unwise land use. Much has been bought by land developers for suburbs and industrial use with the result that surrounding lands also feel the increase of land-tax value...

What's the solution? "We believe that farm land should be assessed as farm land as long as it is so used, instead of on its potential value," Smith said. There are basically four types of legislation, or combinations, that could bring some relief. A plain Preferred Assessment calling attention to the preservation of farmland, forest land and open space, Tax Deferral, that land be assessed only on its value for farmland, Planning and Zoning, again, assessed for its agricultural benefit provided it has been designated or zoned as agricultural or open space. Area and Easement, a method whereby the state or local government contracts with the landowner to restrict the development of the land for a period of time.

"This suggests some benefit rather than adverse effect from the judicious use of pesticides by farmers and foresters, that helps to preserve and improve wildlife cover and food supply."

FOR THE VEEP — Vice President Spiro Agnew accepted an engraved silver plate from National Cherry Queen, Julie Anne Hamilton, 18, of Cedar Springs, Michigan, during her trip around the country promoting Michigan's cherry industry. She was accompanied to Agnew's office in Washington by U.S. Senator Robert Griffin.

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS — toward public understanding of weather effects on agriculture, were recognized recently by the U.S. Department of Commerce in presenting a public service award to Farm Bureau for producing a color film "Whatever the Weather." Presenting the award is Cecil Van Den Brink, Mich. Meteorologist, Eau Claire, Farm Bureau's Secretary-Manager, and Malcolm Well, Information Division Manager, accepted the award on behalf of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Legis-late-notes

* Farm Labor legislation will again be very much on the "front burner" this legislative season.

* Deadline for introduction of bills has passed, but before this happened—many labor bills were placed in the hopper.

* H-2310 is one such bill—which would apply to anyone hiring "one-or-more" people. It limits agricultural work to no more than six days or 48 hours in any week—or more than 10 hours in any day. The bill contains provisions for workers' rights over-time, and also for the employer to require over-time—but not more than 30 days in any 12-month period.

Under H-2310, the Department of Labor would issue rules and provide for appeal of employer and employee. The employer must keep records for three years and produce them in writing on demand.

* It is obvious that such legislation would create hardships in all types of farming. At least three bills are introduced to increase minimum wages in Michigan. One would place the wage at $1.50 —another at $1.80 and still another, to $2.00.

* H-2363 is a bill to exempt approved migrant housing from all real estate taxes. Farm Bureau has supported this in previous years.

* Labor bill—S-166, would require any employer, including farmers, having 100 or more persons employed, to maintain at all times, a first-aid center served by a nurse or some other qualified person, to administer first-aid.

* Other bills would remove the present farm exemption on work-permits for those under 18. Still another would prohibit withholding of any payment as a bonus, unless it was by a written condition with the employee. It would also prohibit transportation of seasonal agricultural workers without written agreement—stipulating all terms and conditions of employment.

* House bill 2361, would appropriate money to Michigan State University to research group-housing of migrant workers, and also approve money for credits to employers who make extensive improvement and—or, build new worker housing. This bill has been introduced in other years.

* Several bills would bring agriculture under the wage law, requiring payment every week—or each two weeks.

* It is expected that legislation to bring all farm workers under full workmen's compensation will be strongly promoted in the current session.

* Meanwhile, the Michigan Farm Bureau continues to work for fair and equitable arrangements for farmers under the present Workmen's Compensation Act—recognizing that farmers are having difficulty adjusting to the provisions of the Act as it applies to farm workers. Without a broad base of experience, this law has imposed financial hardship upon farm employers, and has caused a decrease in the number of available farm jobs.
does farm policy MAKE or BREAK the farmer?

President Smith on National Farm Panel

Programs and policies of the Michigan Farm Bureau made the national scene in early March when state president Elton Smith, appeared as a guest speaker and panelist on a national Farm Forum, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

With Smith on the platform was former Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, Terraceman Harold, President of Pillsbury Mills, Congressman Otis Laniger of Minnesota's 7th district, Minnesota Governor Harold LeVander, and the presidents of the National Farmers Union and the NFO.

For the past 23 years, the Minneapolis Farm Forum has attracted thousands of farm and city people to the twin-cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul, with an estimated 2000 persons attending this year's March 6th session in the Leamington hotel.

The theme of the general session, "Breaking the Farmer," and at the discussion panel, and throughout the day was interviewed by numerous newspapersmen, radio and television broadcasters. Smith and the other farm organization leaders were asked to address themselves to the topic: "Agricultural policy makes or breaks the farmer," and at the onset, Smith made it clear that such a policy only holds to the extent that farmers themselves make the policy.

"I would say that it depends upon who makes that policy and to what extent it has been shaped by farmers," Smith said.

"They tell me that in this part of the country, some farmers do know that farm prices are made in Washington, D.C. and as near as I can tell, they appear to endorse that idea as somehow being good.

"We farmers in Farm Bureau can't buy that," Smith said.

He told the large group that over 35 years of farm problems have been collected considerable evidence that farm prices can be raised in Washington, D.C., but the problem hasn't yet been solved, let alone fixed.

If the future of the nation's crucial balance-of-payments is to be insured, a "walking dead" as Samuels before the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, who are in charge of making the policy.

The Agricultural Fair Practices Act of last year is a "valuable first step" in building a more sound legal framework for farmer-bargaining, Smith said. What needs to be done to improve the operation wide open to manipulation?

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CHARLES J. DAVIS
The late Michigan Representative Charles J. Davis was honored Monday, March 17, as Michigan's Dairymen of the Year. This unusual presentation was made because of Davis' years of service as a dairyman, dairy industry leader and agricultural legislator.

Mr. Davis died October 1, 1969 after serving since 1962 in the Michigan House of Representatives. In making the presentation during a dairy awards banquet at Michigan State University's Farmers' Week, Dr. Charles A. LasHenry, chairman of MSU's Department of Dairy, referred to Davis as a "progressive agricultural leader in this state."

Mr. Davis was past president of the Ingham County Farm Bureau and was an active member and leader in many dairy and farm-related organizations.

Michigan Farm Bureau presented a Distinguished Service Award for Service to Agriculture to Mr. Davis at the 1967 Annual Meeting, recognizing him as an outstanding dairy farmer, Farm Bureau leader and a member of the Michigan Legislature but above all, representative of the best in agriculture.

His wife, Lenore, resides on Crest Farm, Onondaga.

STANLEY JOHNSTON
Michigan's million dollar peach scientist, Professor Stanley Johnston, died March 11, at the age of 76, in South Haven.

Professor Johnston received a Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award from Michigan Farm Bureau in 1969, recognizing him for his more than 40 years of service to Michigan's fruit industry.

Professor Johnston developed the world famous Haven peaches and improved varieties of raspberries, blueberries, strawberries and apricots. The much respected and honored Dr. Johnston had conducted research at Michigan State University's South Haven Experimental Station for 48 years and was slated to retire June 30, 1969. His legacy includes millions of acres of fruit crops growing throughout the world.

Professor Johnston was born in Roscommon, graduated from Michigan State University in 1920 and received his master of science from that institution in 1930. Prof. Johnston was superintendent of the South Haven station since 1920 and was appointed professor in 1945.

He served as president of the American Pomological Society and received the Wilder Medal for "Outstanding Service to Horticulture."

He is survived by his wife, Laura, and two sons.
The Horse and Buggy Days

On February 1, a very cold day in 1879, Doctor Culp hurried to horse and buggy to one farm in Fadsworth Township, St. Joseph County, to deliver me. A neighbor had driven a horse the six miles to Constantine to get him. Aunt Kate, the local midwife, assisted Doctor Culp, and, I am told, gave me my first bath. Neighboring women, many of whom my mother had assisted on like occasions, took over the running of the house while my father was being conducted and cooked for the family. Father was kept busy cutting wood in the kitchen stove, heating water, and doing anything else the occasion demanded. The fire burned wood in a PROGRESSIVE and the need for heat was greatly increased. There is no record of what my father said when he pulled back the blanket for his first look at me. I can imagine that as he announced my arrival to the neighborhood, he exhibited considerable pride that his first child was a boy.

The parlor was reserved for company and for the Sabbath. The yellow shades were pulled all the way down during the week and the doors were shut. Everything was preserved in this, and no one was allowed to sit or stand in the parlor. When the room was opened up, daylight filtered softly through the windows. There were artificial flowers in a small vase at each end of the mantle. The parlor had a comfortable atmosphere, and the scent of ginger, cinnamon, and marjoram was mingled with the smell of clover is to a man. A great soul made it possible for her to accept the world, its good and its evil, in a matter setting the stage for a farm child, nor would parents have had it so. Perhaps our pleasures were made doubly sweet, coming as they did between chores.

Life was a manual, except for horse-drawn refinements such as a reaper, mower, plow, and thrasher. A windmill pumped water, but in a windless spell we had to pump water by hand for forty head of livestock and the house. Mother had a hired girl who worked for "keep" and two or three dollars a week, and father a hired man for "keep" and sixteen or eighteen dollars a month. At having and harvest, additional field hands each cost seventy-five cents to a dollar.

Children completed the economic picture. Feeding chickens, chopping logs, rendering lard, making soap, and helping in the house freed adults for more profitible work. After eight grades, which was all the school most people got, a farmer had acquired another hand in the family, and the expense of a hired hand could be done away with, or operations could be extended. This was not an economical way of child-rearing; it was common.

Father had spent six weeks in 1830 on a farm in Ohio by horseback on trailer boxes that the wind drove and by rafts on the streams to Michigan, had squatted on our acres one mile from the house, and was the first to break it with a plow. One of the hard-boiled men that Van Buren's signature, of this 1919-1969, by Michigan State University Press. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.)
YOUTH, DRUGS AND CRIME
SPRING WOMEN'S TOPICS

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND PROBLEMS OF YOUTH, CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES, DRUGS AND NARCOTICS AND FALLACIES IN JUVENILE CRIME are the topics chosen for the Farm Bureau Women's District meetings in Lower Michigan during the month of April.

District 1, (Briemen, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties) will lead off the scheduled meetings on April 1 at the Youth Memorial Building in Berrien Springs. Juvenile Delinquency and Problems of Youth will be the program subject.

District 2 (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee counties) will bear about "Fallacies in Juvenile Crime" at their April 9 meeting at the Lenawee County Farm Bureau office in Adrian. Belleville United Methodist church will be the site of the District 3 meeting. Drugs and Narcotics will be the subject of the program April 10 for all Farm Bureau women from Monroe, Livingston, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties.

Women of Farm Bureau in District 4 (Allagash, Barry, Kent, Ionia and Ottawa counties) will meet April 17 at the Hope Brothers church in St. Thomas, Michigan. Women are invited to attend meetings on Drugs and Juveniles. Juvenile Crime will also be the discussion for the District 5 (Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham and Shiawassee) Farm Bureau Women when they meet April 21 at the Mason United Methodist church.

Drugs and Juveniles is the subject chosen for three other district meetings ... District 6 (Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola counties), meeting April 15 at the Village Building in Cement City (Avenue, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw counties), April 16 at the Trinity Lutheran school, Monitor township and the 10-East Farm Bureau building, downtown. April 24, District 10 East includes Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw and Presque Isle counties. This group will meet at the Fisher Grange Township hall in West Harrisville.

District 7 will discuss Crime in the United States at their District meetings. District 7 (Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana and Osceola counties) have scheduled their meeting for the Settlement Lutheran Church in Comstock City and District 9 at the Twin Lakes United Methodist, Traverse City. This district includes Benzie, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee, N. W. Michigan and Wexford counties.

Fallacies in Juvenile Crime will also be the subject of the District 8 meeting April 18 at the Topinbee Community Center and all Farm Bureau women from Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet and Otsego counties are invited to attend.

All meetings are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. In addition to the above subjects, other entertainment is being planned for each district.

Elections for District Chairmen and District Vice Chairmen in Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 East and 10 West will also be held on these scheduled dates; District Women's meetings for the Upper Peninsula will be held during June.

All Farm Bureau Women are invited to attend ... not only their own District meetings, but others as well.

VACATION TOURS ANNOUNCED

CANADIAN ROCKIES ... Aug. 9

All the way to the West Coast and onto the Canadian Rockies by bus and train and up the ship to the Island of Victoria.

SCANDINAVIA ... Sept. 5

See Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark in the full of the summer. Most necessary expenses included in tour cost.

CALIFORNIA CRUISE ... Oct. 25

A 10 day tour via jet-air, hotels, sightseeing and some meals. Under $5,000.

THE ORIENT ... June 12

One month tour to Japan, Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

THE NORTHEAST ... June 30

A 3 week tour of Europe ... visit nine countries plus the Island of Malta.

EUROPE ... August 5

A 3 week tour of Europe ... visit nine countries plus the Island of Malta.
A growing conviction that right now is the best time for farmers to take positive action in moving federal farm programs closer to the market-place and more farm income, has resulted in a new, long-range proposal by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Meeting in Chicago in mid-March, the 37-member board of directors—which includes Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, among its members, endorsed a five-year phase out of present feed grain, wheat and cotton controls and subsidy programs.

The proposal follows recognition by farmers that present farm programs have not brought needed income into agriculture. "After more than thirty years of experience in attempting to solve farm problems through legislation, we are convinced that a new approach is necessary ..." wrote voting delegates to the American Farm Bureau convention last December.

Now Farm Bureau will press for passage of a program which will move toward dropping acreage controls, base acreages, marketing quotas, processing taxes and direct payments for wheat, feed grains and cotton.

Farm Bureau members strongly believe that such a program—when conducted over a 5-year period—will ease the transition to a market price system and will mean higher net incomes for farmers.

In the Farm Bureau proposal, the new program would take effect on the first of January, in 1971 as an amendment to the current farm program—the "Food and Agriculture, Act of 1965" which is due to expire December 31, 1970.

Essentially, the Farm Bureau program provides for a 5-year period during which acreage controls, base acreages, marketing quotas and direct payments for wheat, feed grains and cotton would be phased out.

This program would be open to all farmers producing those commodities—but a special program would be open to any farmer whose gross annual sales of farm products were no more than $8,500 and whose off-farm income was not more than $2,000 per year. There are more than a half million such farmers, who could then be eligible for one or more of these:

Compensation for acreage allotments and base acreages surrendered to the Secretary of Agriculture for permanent cancellation.

This would apply to all commodities having acreage allotments or base acreages. Such compensation would be in addition to land-retirement payments under the cropland adjustment program and would also be available to eligible farmers who wish to surrender their acreage allotments or base acreages without taking part in the cropland adjustment program.

Requiring grants not to exceed $1,000,000, equipment assistance not to exceed $2,500 per year, for two years.

Loons under existing credit programs to help in transfer to more gainful employment.

To those that think it is funny, let me say that, if rushing into the barn or back forty to answer a telephone leaves you out of breath, then perhaps an extension telephone is the answer. You can put an extension telephone nearly anywhere you'd like, inside or out. Then instead of interrupting work to rush back to the house, you can do your telephoning from where you are.

Call your Michigan Bell Business Office and ask for the telephone man. You can have an extension telephone in any funny old place you'd like.

**MY STRONGER MARKETS—MORE NET INCOME IS AIM OF NEW FARM BUREAU PROGRAM**

Nearby 200 high school students in Michigan will be invited to attend and participate in Michigan Farm Bureau's Sixth Annual Young People's Citizenship Seminar July 21-25 at Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant.

A main reason for holding the Seminar at Central Michigan University this year is for the expanded facilities, enabling more students to participate. Each county is encouraged to send three students—junior or senior, next fall (1969) and a fourth on a first-come, first-served basis.

Emphasis will be placed on four major subjects during the five day conference — (1) The American Way of Life, (2) People and Governments around the world; (3) The main keys in the American Private Enterprise System and (4) Our American Two-Party Political System function as the basis for our American System of Government, Society and Enterprise.

Five outstanding and competent leaders have been assigned to various sessions. The Americanism program will be handled by Dr. Clifton Gaines, President of Hardin College, Scott, Arkansas, and Dean of the School of American Studies. "The People and Government Around the World" study will be led by Dr. John Furby, lecturer, author and global air commuter. The discussion of our Economic System will be under the guidance of Kenneth Cheatham, of the Program Development Div., American Farm Bureau Federation.

D. Hale Brake, former State treasurer and known by many high school graduates as the leader of Student Government Days programs in many of the state's high schools, will lead the program on "Participating in Political Parties." Mr. Brake is also a member of the Michigan State Association of Supervisors.

Selection of students is a county Farm Bureau responsibility. Citizenship Committees and Farm Bureau Women's Committees have previously been responsible for the success of the program.

Miss Helen Atwood, Coordinator of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's program; Dale Sherwin, Michigan Farm Bureau's Legislative Counsel and Dave Cook, Young Farmer Program Director are directing this year's seminar, which last year won a Freedoms Foundation award.

June 1 is the enrollment deadline. Further particulars will be given in the May Michigan Farm News. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Dale Sherwin, Public Affairs Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, 4000 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48904.

**WHAT'S A FUNNY PLACE FOR A PHONE?**

That depends on what you think is funny. If rushing in from the barn or back forty to answer a telephone leaves you out of breath, then perhaps an extension telephone is the answer. You can put an extension telephone nearly anywhere you'd like, inside or out. Then instead of interrupting work to rush back to the house, you can do your telephoning from where you are.

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**TO THE EDITOR...**

I want to thank the Michigan Farm Bureau for the wonderful trip to the American Farm Bureau convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

I feel that I learned more about Farm Bureau in those four days than previously had been acquired in my life.

What I learned made me proud of what Farm Bureau members throughout this country are now doing, and most of all, I was proud of our own "Four Star" award-winning Michigan Farm Bureau, and our John Nye—winner of the national Discussion Meet contest.

Both my parents and I met many fine people whom we hope will become even better friends in coming years.

I certainly will never forget this experience. Thank you again.

Diane Traver
(Michigan Farm Bureau Queen)

**DAVID MORRIS—Grand Ledge livestockman and third member of the Michigan Farm Bureau board, has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Michigan Live- stock Exchange. Also elected was Milton Brown, Mt. Pleasant, and Blaque Knick, Quincy. Morris feeds 1000 cattle, farms 650 acres.**
end boycotts union crushing truth like grapes!

emotional issues

This article is reprinted from the editorial pages of one of Michigan's leading newspapers, The Muskegon Chronicle; March 13, 1969.

We can't recall an issue in recent history that has generated more emotion than the one that concerns migrant workers in the U.S. today.

The complexity of the situation is such that it has taken many years to assemble from both sides the basic, factual data on which to rest an informed opinion, plus additional time to wait for the introduction of Senate Bill No. 8, designed to call national attention to the issue—and to study its provisions.

We need to speak now and here it is: straight out and, we trust, factually. There is no need to shroud away the confusion that has sent hundreds of people—most of them honest, some misguided—into the streets here and across the nation to boycott grapes and other crops—"strike" against grape growers tied to a national boycott against the United Farm Worker Organization.

If the figures are correct, it translates into a significant delay in operations and because of the perishable nature of their final product, any significant delay in operations would have the effect of destroying the farmer's product for the very year.

It is also clear to the farmer that any law covering farm labor will either crush the American farmer, as described in the May, 1967 issue of The Federalist, the official AFL-CIO magazine.

The legislation should be seen for what it is and quickly killed. If it goes through it could give the labor unions dictatorial powers over the marketing and pricing of foods.

The Senate bill is aimed at the capture of millions of agricultural workers by compulsory unions, a de facto dealig of all workers in all crops to collect millions of dollars in forced dues. The assault on the grape pickers was just an opening shot; it passed, the Senate bill—despite their gutty fight against union coercion—will force them into bondage with the rest.

April 1, 1969

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
the grape boycott: NOW a JOB OF VIOLENCE!

A recent exchange of letters concerning the controversial Califor-nia grape boycott has appeared in the Michigan Christian Advocate, the official publication of Michigan United Methodists.

... laking public's support, boycotters turn on retailers

A fallacy, widely adhered to this area, is that grape workers are not on strike. As one who has followed the situation, I am certain that whenever an election is held, the field workers have voted overwhelmingly in favor of joining the National Farm Workers Association.

The life of the migrant farm worker is NOT financially re-warding. The average laborer has only 82 days of farm work a year. If he is fortunate enough to find 52 weeks of work, however, he would earn only $380, well below the poverty level.

Furthermore, the hardships of physical life are shocking. A recent report showed that the death rate among migrant farm families was about 200% higher; tuberculosis was shown to be 200% higher; and acci-dent and homicide death rates were 200-300% higher. Death to the migrant worker comes swiftly at 49 years.

... "counter-pickers" effective at Grand Rapids supermarket

Grand Rapids free-lance writer, Floyd Hilliker, was on hand when Meijer's Supermarket in Grand Rapids was "picketed" by a group of grape boycott supporters.

"Labor boycott"— "Grape Pickers are Starving in California"— "Michigan Catholics Support Grape Boycott"— "Don't Shop Meijers"— "Fred Meijer gets rich while grape pickers starve"— were slogans scrawled on signs displayed in windows and on doors.

"The last two months, specifically attacking a retailer, were part of a new phase of the AFL-CIO boycott campaign which has resulted in serious damage to Michigan stores and businesses." - Floyd Hilliker

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Sincerely,
Dan E. Reed

Michigan Farm News
April 1, 1969

ELEVEN
THE TESTING OF SEEDS — for moisture resistance, ratio of growth and germination, are all important parts of the work done in MSU's ag-production course work — aimed at students on-the-job training to fit them for agricultural related careers. Roger Wawland of Bellevue, Ohio a 1969 course graduate, is pictured checking soybean varieties for the Michigan Crop Improvement Laboratory in the University greenhouses.

PREPARING FOR AG-CAREERS

Forty eight "General-Ag" students graduated from Michigan State's Institute of Agricultural Technology March 14, prepared themselves for successful careers as farm operators and managers. A total of 450 students were enrolled in all phases of Ag Technology, offering on-the-job training while learning, providing work experience and a broad insight into the entire business.

Harold Ecker, Director of Institute of Agricultural Technology uses 45 instructors. About 90% of the students find employment in the area for which they were trained with the remaining 20% going on to further their education in a four year course in the College of Agriculture. 153 students were enrolled in the most recent Ag- Technology course.

Courses are offered in Horticulture and Commercial Floriculture, Landscape and Nursery, Pesticides, Elevator and Farm Supply, Ag Production Program, Soil Technicians, Lab. Animal Technology, Turf Grass Management, Food Processing and Farm Equipment Service and Sales.

Several Farm Bureau people have served as resource personnel during the course. Elton R. Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau president, (a 1933 graduate of the program), advised the young men to continue their education and develop their farming abilities. Mr. Smith told them that "agriculture in Michigan is looking forward to young people to continue farming." Other Farm Bureau people included Robert Smith, Gordon Amendt and Walter Trinkline.

ANTIQUE ATTRACTIONS

OLD-TIME HOUSEHOLD TOOLS — attracted much attention at the mid-March Rural Urban event sponsored by Farm Bureau Women of Shiawassee county. Pictured looking over the exhibits are (left) Oren Semans — bearded in celebration of Ovid's coming Centennial; Charles Kridner, Dwight Kittle and Thelma Kridner. Semans and Kridner are county Farm Bureau directors.

LEADERS JOIN — in a "Happy Birthday" party for Farm Bureau Insurance Group, with cake galore served to Home Office employees on the 20th anniversary occasion. Pictured are: (left) Nile Vermillion, Executive Vice President for Farm Bureau Insurance, and Mich. Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith.
A concentrated effort by thousands of Michigan Farm Bureau members has resulted in Michigan reaching its membership goal of 53,707 members...3,350 of these new.

One of the highlights of this year's membership drive was the Funny-Money auction held in each of the ten regions. Members were issued "bogus-money" by their regional representatives, earned by bringing in new members, renewals, etc. Of the 71 counties in Michigan Farm Bureau, 42 of them were over goal with the rest of the counties expected to make goal by April 1.

Gifts ranged all the way from 19 inch portable television sets to electric typewriters and down to a 10¢ screwdriver.

Field Services personnel Larry Ewing and Charles Burkett, anticipate an almost unbelievably low 5% cancellation of new memberships, including deaths and those moving out of state, leaving a 94.6% maintenance of membership. Both state: "The continued good support of our affiliate companies plus the hard work of all Farm Bureau members has contributed greatly to this wonderful record-making year."

A PEEK AT THE MERCHANDISE — was given bidders at the West Central Region "Fun-Money" auction by Regional Representative Ken Wiles. An enthusiastic crowd attended the auction at the Lincoln Township Hall, in Reed City.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING — was worn by Lafeet Brady for his Northwest Regional membership Victory auction. He led activities in tharca's outfit, complete with whistle, used to stop and start auctioneer Vernon Gerber — himself a new Farm Bureau member.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

A集中努力，数以千计的密歇根农场局成员共同努力，使密歇根州达到其会员目标35,707人…其中3,350人是新会员。

今年会员发展活动的一个亮点是每个地区的搞笑货币拍卖。成员们根据他们的区域代表提供的假币，通过增加新成员、续费等方式赚取。密歇根州农场局的71个县中，有42个县超过了目标，其余的县预计将在4月1日之前达到目标。

礼物从19英寸的便携式电视机到电动打字机，甚至包括10分钱的螺丝刀。

现场服务人员拉里·伊文和查尔斯·伯克特，预计新会员的取消率几乎为0%，包括死亡和搬家等，剩余的71个县的会员维持率达到了94.6%。他们称：“我们的附属公司继续保持良好的支持，再加上农场局成员的辛勤努力，为这个非凡的记录年做出了巨大贡献。”

一瞥商品——在西中部地区的“搞笑货币”拍卖中，区域代表肯·威尔斯向竞拍者展示了商品。在林肯镇厅举行的拍卖会气氛热烈。

合适的服装——拉菲特·布雷迪戴着查拉卡的服装参加了西北地区的会员胜利拍卖，他使用的口哨是自己的新农协成员。
POLLUTION

By MELVIN L. WOELK

Perhaps the tale of the two garbage haulers will serve to introduce the first portion of this double topic dealing with pollution and pesticides.

The men held their heads high, for although most townspeople looked down on them as simple garbage collectors, they, in turn, looked down upon those they served, as garbage makers.

During the Second World War, a great many Americans were stationed in England where the British were sometimes hard put to accept our attitudes toward trash. The tale is told of the G.I. sitting in a car parked on a street in Cheltenham, who bidedly tossed an empty cigarette pack onto the nearby green.

An irate matron scolded it with the tip of her umbrella and presented it to the G.I. sitting in a car parked on a street in Cheltenham, who bidedly tossed an empty cigarette pack onto the nearby green.

It is a tale that is often retold with exasperation.

Mankind has been described as one of the few creatures known to foul his own nest.

Apparently, the more he has, the more he despots and throws away. This, in spite of a longer life-span than most creatures, an enlarged brain which gives him the ability to learn and remember, and advantages of a complex society which he has built to give him great material rewards. In recent years there is growing evidence that city man — as opposed to country man, is the far greater problem. But, farm or city, we all live in the same world.

Newspaper headlines tell part of the story: — "Oil Spills Into Ocean" — "Smog Makers Sued" — "Air Pollutants Cut Growth".

"Farmers watch huge factories blacken the skies with their smoke. pouring their heat and chemicals into the streams. We are sick of the cycles of nature, and piles his excretions where natural processes. He has learned to pace himself with the rythms of the seasons. He uses the natural processes which turn harmless wastes into useful products. He plans his application program, use correct chemicals and in correct amounts. •

"Read and follow the labels—every word. •" Farmers use his mind and his muscles to do the right job. •

Nature as a Polluter

But isn't nature herself the world's greatest polluter? What of giant storms filling the sky with dirt? Of sulfur fumes pouring from volcanoes, forest fires begun by lightning and forest fires begun by lightning and kept burning by lightning. •

California scientists have discovered that nature is a very good housekeeper and manages to clean up and vacuum-taint air. Nature uses the washing-machine of rain and snow cycles, with moisture forming around dust motes to drag them down to the ground. •

"Farmers watch the huge factories pour their smoke, pouring their heat and chemicals into the streams. •

We watch the city sewage empty into the water. •

It is not the farmer who contributes to such things • "• and Michigan Farmers Bureau President, Ellen Smith, speaking recently to a farm-city audience at Port Huron, Mich.

"We are surprised and hurt when people suggest that farmers contribute more to the pollution of the ground or to the soil or atmosphere. We eat the same foods, drink the same waters. We see how the American life-span has been lengthening and know that our 70 and more years have been gained through good nutrition and balanced diet. •

"Farmers watch the huge factories blacken the skies with their smoke, pouring their heat and chemicals into the streams. •

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It is not the farmer who contributes to such things • "

FARMERS AS GARBAGE MAKERS

Agricultural man is a student and user of these natural processes. He has learned to pace himself with the rythms of the seasons. He uses the natural processes which turn barnyard manures into humus and prime elements of the soil, meanwhile protecting the precious topsoil from leaching and blowing. •

Farmers watch the huge factories blacken the skies with their smoke, pouring their heat and chemicals into the streams. •

We watch the city sewage empty into the water. •

It is not the farmer who contributes to such things • "

The Council suggests that users employ common sense to bridge any gap between what is written on the label or special instructions. Keep children away from mixing, dusting or spraying areas" the Safety Council warns.

Storage areas should be off limits, with all farm chemicals stored in a locker, room or building which remains locked. •

It is stressed that chemicals must be stored where there can be no mistaken mixing or chance contact with human food or livestock feeds.

Above all—keep pesticides in original containers, never in fruit jars, open pans, coffee cans or other containers without label or distinguishing marks. Remove only those amounts of chemicals needed to do the job, return any unused portion to the safe-storage area.

Never, never allow pesticidal-herbicidal containers to go to city dumps or rubbish heaps, accessible to animals, water or children. Empty containers should be disposed of immediatel,y, with care. Metal or glass containers should be crushed, broken and buried whenever possible. Another caution is to avoid fumes from burned paper containers— for gases released by the heat can be extremely poisonous.

PESTICIDES

"The level of living of consumers would be drastically reduced if pesticides were not used today. It has been estimated that livestock output would be reduced by about 25 per cent and crop production by nearly 30 per cent in the first years of nonuse. Farm exports would be eliminated by such a reduction and prices of farm products might increase by 50 to 75 per cent. Consumers would pay higher prices for poorer quality products. The effect of these losses would be cumulative over the years. •

—Statement from Senate Appropriations Committee, as quoted by Mrs. Haven Smith, Chairman of AFFB Women's Committee in a letter to 16 national women's groups.

Having made the point that pesticides are important and necessary in the production, storage and transportation of food for a hungry world, farmers and others who use them must also face the fact that these weapons-of-survival remain killers to be treated with respect.

Farm chemicals are poisonous and must be treated as such. The farm department of the National Safety Council emphasizes "Four Keys to Pesticide Safety..." beginning with careful reading of every word on a pesticide or herbicide label and the careful following of all instructions on the label or special instructions.

FACTS ON PESTICIDES

The Supreme Court has caused serious erosion in law and order. •

It has been estimated that food production has been brought about through chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides. •

Helping bear out his statements are recent studies by Michigan State University which show that a large part of the pesticide and other contamination in Michigan rivers comes from city areas.

"The level of living of consumers would be drastically reduced if pesticides were not used today. It has been estimated that livestock output would be reduced by about 25 per cent and crop production by nearly 30 per cent in the first years of nonuse. Farm exports would be eliminated by such a reduction and prices of farm products might increase by 50 to 75 per cent. Consumers would pay higher prices for poorer quality products. The effect of these losses would be cumulative over the years."
Want Go-Power?

Then Use The Best "Darn" Gas by a "Country Mile!"

Farmers Petroleum customers get new high octane gasolines blended specifically for top performance all year long... and the "extra power" of HPA, the new high performance gasoline additive. HPA cleans your fuel system and keeps it clean, free from harmful rust and other foreign material. Convince yourself... try a tank today for faster starts and longer engine life and get that extra "Country Mile" right now!

*Remember, our Custom Diesel Fuel has the power additive HPAD... and that means power!*

FARMERS PETROLEUM

4000 N. GRAND RIVER

LANSING, MICHIGAN
CASE 412 - Employee picking apples fell when a ladder broke. The employee suffered a fractured ankle and was admitted to the hospital where he died five days later from causes unquestionably related to the accident. Claimant's widow and brother have retained separate attorneys and are making claims against the employer for medical bills exceeding $2,000.00. Another claim alleges death was related to the accident, caused by the negligence of the employer.

CASE 414 - Employee alleges heart attack resulted from his employment.

CASE 416 - Employee fell from silo sustaining a broken leg and three fractured vertebrae. Compensation was paid a rate of $133.00 weekly plus medical care including two surgeries.

CASE 417 - An employee ruptured himself while stacking crates of apples. Weekly compensation was $83.00, plus medical. He was disabled four months.

CASE 418 - An employee who sprained his back while digging trees, was disabled 49 weeks. Weekly compensation paid totaled $2,146.89, plus medical expenses exceeding $500.00.

CASE 419 - Cow kicked an employee causing abscess on leg. Compensation was $63.00 weekly — disabled three months.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE . . .

WHO NEEDS IT

A lot of our policyholders have . . . just check our case files. And some of them, like most people, thought they really didn't need Workmen's Compensation Insurance. But today's modern farm . . . its machinery, its multiple hazards and unpredictable weather . . . is an open-end employee hazard. Full protection against the unexpected can cost as little as $58 a year. Don't second-guess the future. Call your local Farm Bureau Insurance Group Representative. See how little it costs to be safe . . . Workmen's Compensation safe.