"The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. These bounties... are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come...

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people."

Abraham Lincoln
National Thanksgiving Proclamation, 1863

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Each year there is a day marked on our calendar as Thanksgiving. Every school child knows how a group of people, who opposed many of the traditional practices of the Church of England, sailed across the ocean to a new land in search of religious freedom. This group of people, called Pilgrims, landed at a point on the east coast we now call Plymouth Rock after spending several months on the ship at sea.

During their first few months in the new land, a great sickness plagues them, killing more than half of the group. The epidemic proves beneficial in one way as it provided fewer mouths to feed from the limited supplies that were brought over on the Mayflower.

For nearly two years the group worked together as a unit for the "... common cause and condition" under the terms of the Mayflower Compact with very little success. Life in the new land became increasingly difficult, everyone seemed to be working hard so all could be provided for equally, but the cribs and barns were not being filled.

In 1623 a new rule was written by Governor Bradford allowing every man to till, plant, harvest and keep what he desired. More corn was planted than ever before in hopes that if a family had more than their own requirements, some could be used for trading for goods and services.

The Autumn of 1623 brought a bountiful harvest to the Pilgrims and the cribs and barns were filled. The group was so happy with the system and the abundant harvest that a day was set aside to give thanks to God.

A new way of life was created — free enterprise was established as a part of the economic system of the new land.

The seed of free enterprise, planted by the Pilgrims, has been cultivated for the past 347 years into the greatest prosperity any nation has ever known.

Today, the people of the same new land face many problems. Today's living is far removed from the life of the Pilgrims, yet their experiences proved that man's dream can come true if he is free to seek his own destiny.

From the dream, hard work and hardship of the Pilgrims, a great nation was built and a Thanksgiving Day was added to the calendar.

We need to ask ourselves at the Thanksgiving season, is there a better country than that which the Pilgrims gave us? Is there a country with a superior economic and political system, where the individual has a greater chance for personal achievement? Is there a country that provides for its people better health, educational and social opportunities? Is there a country that enables such a large number of people material well being? Is there a country that offers its citizens travel, recreation and communication systems equal or superior to those of any other nation? Is there a country that offers its citizens travel, recreation and communication systems equal or superior to those of any other nation?

We should give thanks for the Pilgrims and what they gave us — our country with all of its greatness — our heritage of freedom that grants as much personal or group freedom?
MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU—FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC., FARMERS PETROLEUM COOPERATIVE, INC. ANNUAL MEETINGS—PANTLIND HOTEL—CIVIC AUDITORIUM

Commodity Day Schedule

The Commodity Day Program . . . Monday, November 9, again offers a wide choice of meetings and interesting topics to attend the three-day State Annual meeting. November 9-11, in Grand Rapids.

Delegates and members of Michigan Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Services, Inc. and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., will attend the joint-opening session in the East Vandenberg Room of the Pantlind at 10 a.m. Noel Stuckman, Commodity Day Program chairman, reports that the sessions will be in the Main Auditorium of the Civic Center. Mr. Stuckman represents the Michigan Marketing Development Division, Michigan Farm Bureau. Following the 1:15 luncheon, six Young Farmers will compete in the Discussion Meet State Finals.

FIELD CROPS PROGRAM

Two outstanding speakers will address the Field Crops portion of the Commodity Day Program to be held at 3:15 in the West Vandenberg Room of the Pantlind Hotel. According to Walter Frahm, chairman of Michigan Farm Bureau's Field Crop Advisory Committee, reports that Dr. Dale Harpstead, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, MSU, will discuss "The Narrow Path Between Surplus and Shortage." Also on the program are Glen Hofer, executive vice-president National Federation of Grain Cooperatives, W-Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, who will explain "Grain Markets and Legislation . . . The National and International Scene."

LAKE POWELL

Glenn Lake is president of the National Milk Producers Federation. Mr. Lake is also president of the Michigan Milk Producers Association, head of the Great Lakes—Interstate Producers Livestock Association, chairman of the National Dairy Council.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

James Sayre, MFBI Vegetable Advisory Committee chairman, will host the Fruit and Vegetable program in the Red Cedar Room of the Civic Auditorium at 3:15 p.m. Of much interest to growers will be the address to be given by M. J. Bushchel on "Redefining Marketing and the Impact on the Financial Position of the Grower." Also on the program will be Robert E. Braden, chairman of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACA) since its organization in 1961.

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M. J. Bushchel is Operations Manager of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACA). He is a graduate of MSU, having a B.S. degree in agriculture and economics. Robert E. Braden is a former vegetable grower. He has been the manager of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACA) since its organization in 1961.

LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

"Farm Bureau's National Livestock Marketing Program" will lead off the 3:15 Livestock meeting in the East Vandenberg Room.

KEATING DAILY

Alfred W. Keating is manager of the American Agricultural Marketing Association's Livestock Division, Mr. Keating assists members State Farm Bureau Marketing Associations in the development and operation of livestock marketing programs.

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The key word of the November 3 election, as in every election, is control. Each major political party is driving hard to gain control of the U.S. Senate, control of the President’s office, control of the Michigan Legislature, control of the Michigan Board of Education, control of the MSU Board of Trustees, and control of both houses of the Legislature. The result of these political positions is that for up grade.

Every single vote is important. The decision that the Board will make as to how well each party gets its point out to the polls.

In November, both houses are presently controlled by the Democrat party. In the U.S. Senate, there are 57 Democrats to 43 Republicans; and in the U.S. House, there are 243 Democrats to 166 Republicans. Michigan voters will decide on one U.S. Senator, Democrat Senator Hart Plarr is seeking his third six-year term and is being challenged by Republican Lerense Reimert. Also, voters will vote on a U.S. Representative.

Michigan has 10, appointments, so political campaigns have hot and is anticipated that the race will be very close of both the Democrat party, as well as control of the Legislature. Few voters realize that the Michigan Legislature has the power to control the state’s tax laws; also the opportunity to fill vacant seats through apportionment which will determine the greater degree of control of government for the next two years. In this case, the Governor’s office is held by the Republicans, but other major state offices are held by the Michigan Attorney General and Secretary of State, are held by the Democrats.

Presently, the State House of Representatives is controlled by the Democrats by a majority of 57 Democrats to 53 Republicans. The elections in November will be carried on by the Republicans by the least possible margin.

The Board of Governors of Wayne State University, of the judges to the Court of Appeals, is carried out by an eight-member bipartisan commission, ten of whom are appointed by the Governor, three appointed by the Senate, and one appointed by the House. The Supreme Court ruled by a 5-2 majority, that such boxes will remain exempt from the sales tax.

Agricultural Sales Tax

The Michigan Tax Appeals Board has finally issued a ruling on an extremely important sales tax case dealing with potato harvesting equipment. Many farmers have for gotten that this important issue arose back in the fall of 1968 when two implement dealers were cited by the Department of Revenue for failure to pay sales taxes on stone pickers used for clearing fields of stone for potato production and stone boxes used on the potato harvester. Also, the special self-unloading bulk box.

Farm Bureau has been involved in this issue from the start. Considerable time has been devoted to this issue including time spent in the area taking pictures and interviewing the implement dealers involved, along with individual potato farmers.

As a result of a preliminary hearing in November, 1968, the Department of Revenue finally agreed that the use of the stone picker and stone box was a part of potato production and would remain exempt from the sales tax. They, on the other hand, ruled that the special bulk box, because it was used on the highways, on a licensed vehicle and as part of transportation, would remain taxable.

In May, 1968, after consultation with Farm Bureau attorney Wins, Wilkinson, the lawyer retained by the implement dealers involved filed an appeal with the State Board of Appeals. The hearing before the Board of Tax Appeals was held on December 4 and 5, 1969. The Board asked for further legal briefs to be prepared before reaching a decision.

The decision of the Board was released in October, 1970. In its ruling that the potato bulk boxes in question are exempt from sales tax, the Board said in part that "the record in many areas Farm Bureau have been interested in the contention that bulk potato boxes are necessary to the operation of potato farms, the box (which) must be stored in a favorable environment in only minutes after they are uncovered and that such an operation can involve the local public roads and vehicles that must be licensed whether such vehicles are handling crop production storage or to a farmer’s storage a short distance down the road. No testimony indicated that this hardship for great distances was involved."

The Board went on to say that the administrative rule which had been used by the Department of Revenue "clearly applies to licensed motor vehicles, but does not mention removable special attachment." This far-reaching, precedent-setting decision affects every farmer. If the Board had not ruled in favor of exemption of the potato box in question, it is likely that potato equipment would also become taxable under the sales tax, which, in turn, could have led to a continuing loss of the agricultural sales tax exemption for machinery and other farm production supplies by the process of regulations and interpretations by the taxing authorities.

Others involved, besides Farm Bureau, in this two-year-old case were the Michigan Potato Industry Council and the Michigan Farm Power Equipment Association.

Problems similar to this arise in many areas. Farm Bureau, over the years, has fought to maintain the sales tax exemption for farm equipment, feed and fertilizer, etc. and other production supplies since its was achieved back in the early 1930’s. The biggest battle, of course, was in the present Legislature, when the effort to remove most of these exemptions was finally defeated. There are, however, other cases concerning the regulations, now pending, in which Farm Bureau will be involved.

Control is also the key word on Proposals A, B and C. In this case, the voter will decide the control the decisions on specific issues.

PROPOSAL A

Proposal A, if passed, would amend the Michigan Constitution to provide up to $100 million under general obligation bonds for the purpose of providing capital additions to municipalities for advancement to municipalities . . . and redevelopment corporations for the purpose of credit on the housing programs and income housing. It is claimed that the cost to the taxpayer to get this new money would be about $1 million. Presently, the state has the power to sell $30 million in bonds for mortgages, and mortgages, which must be paid back by the families involved. The $100 million in Proposal A can be used for grants for housing purposes and acquiring building sites along with other expenses. It would also be needed for grants for municipalities for water lines, sewer lines, etc. If the proposal passes, the exact uses of the money will be determined by the Legislature through enabling legislation.

PROPOSAL B

Proposal B is another effort to amend the Michigan Constitution to provide up to $100 million under general obligation bonds for the purpose of providing capital additions to municipalities for advancement to municipalities . . . and redevelopment corporations for the purpose of credit on the housing programs and income housing. It is claimed that the cost to the taxpayer to get this new money would be about $1 million. Presently, the state has the power to sell $30 million in bonds for mortgages, and mortgages, which must be paid back by the families involved. The $100 million in Proposal A can be used for grants for housing purposes and acquiring building sites along with other expenses. It would also be needed for grants for municipalities for water lines, sewer lines, etc. If the proposal passes, the exact uses of the money will be determined by the Legislature through enabling legislation.

PROPOSAL C

Proposal C, if passed, will amend the Constitution to prohibit public tax revenues from being used for public schools. This is the highly controversial preissue. The school aid act would be amended to prohibit the use of public funds. The Supreme Court ruled by a 5-2 vote that under the present constitution the $22 million grant is constitutional. The court also ruled that the amendment would be that the proposal to amend the Constitution, should be permitted to be on the November ballot for final decision by the people. On this issue, if the voter favors aid to public schools, he should vote NO. If, on the other hand, the voter opposes aid to public schools, he should vote YES on the amendment. This may seem strange, however, the YES vote amends the Constitution, which prohibits the use of public funds.

Numerous local political offices and local issues will also be on the ballot.

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To repeat, control is the goal, but the key to that control is the voter. It doesn’t really matter if the voter votes for himself a Democrat, a Republican, or some kind of an independent, your vote, or lack of vote, will contribute to the control of key areas of government by one of the two major political parties. Don’t fail to exercise that right on November 3.
The shocking truth about dry winter heat

Winter heating causes dry air problems...problems like dry skin and nasal passages. Wooden furniture comes unglued. Wallpaper cracks and peels. Wood trim pulls away from walls. Pianos get out of tune. Paintings crack. Static electricity on light switches and door knobs drives you nuts. Our West Bend automatic humidifiers can solve these annoying problems...problems like dry skin and nose passages. They give you efficient moisturizing action to keep the humidity level just right for comfortable living. Feature-for-feature, dollar-for-dollar...we don't think you can find a better buy. Stop by our dealer's and see them for yourself. They make great gifts. Models from $79.95. Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

GREETINGS FROM DORIS

In getting acquainted with the responsibilities and opportunities as State Vice Chairman, I find not only attend Farm Bureau meetings, but those of other organizations as well. This past summer, Maxine and I attended the C.W.C. (Country Women's Council) Annual Meeting. The Michigan Farm Bureau Women is a member society of the C.W.C. This Council acts as a liaison between member societies and the ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World). I also attended College Week for Women with Marie Postma, third member of the Executive Committee.

One of the workshops in which we participated was, "Discussion Leadership Skills." I would like to share some of the things we learned with you.

Qualities of a "Good Discussion Group Member:
1. He listens carefully to what others say.
2. He prepares in advance of the group meeting.
3. He does not decide in advance what the outcome of the group should be.
4. He keeps an open mind as it implies to new concepts.

I would certainly be remiss if I didn't comment on the fine program planning session held in August at Farm Bureau Center. All of you proved you not only could identify problems but could come up with ways in which they could be solved.

Looking forward to seeing you in Grand Rapids at the Annual Meeting.

Doris Wieland

Program Planning Workshops

During September and October Farm Bureau Women's leaders through Michigan have been participating in workshops on program planning held in each district of our state. These workshops were conducted by women's district chairmen and vice chairmen, regional representatives and the coordinator of women's activities.

The Women's district officers decided at their state program planning meeting in August to meet with county leaders regarding planning of their activities for the following year. Nearly every county in Michigan was represented at these workshops. The women discussed "the most pressing needs of agriculture today." At each workshop the issues were similar and included the need to improve the marketing and bargaining of their farm products, better informed about farm labor issues, environmental quality, taxes, respect for law enforcement, the drug situation and improving the farmers image.

These Farm Bureau women also selected projects on which they wanted to conduct activities in the year ahead that would help solve these "pressing issues." The county leaders will put special emphasis on involving as many members as possible in the study and solution of the issues most important to them.

Farm Bureau women are concerned and interested about the business of agriculture and about the problems around them that affect their families and communities. Their plans and activities for the future indicate they will be doing something to improve these conditions by working together through their organization of Farm Bureau.

maxine topliff

state women's chairman

"A minute with Maxine"

scheduled publication of the 1969 Census of Agriculture will begin in February 1971, with individual county and state reports being issued first, according to J. Thomas Breen, Chief of the Agricultural Div., U. S. Bureau of the Census. The first report will contain data for farms, including farm acreage, operators, land and size of farms, land-use practices, income and sales, expenditures, machinery and equipment, use of chemicals, poultry, livestock, crops harvested, nursery and greenhouse products and forest products. The series is expected to be completed by October 1971. In March 1971, publication of the State reports will begin and will contain five volumes—the fifth volume to start in July, 1972.
Women "manned" their booth at the Hillsdale County Fair. In addition to selling homemade "goodies", they were quick to tell the Farm Bureau.

I am convinced and order, he'll give me a "nice watch"...FREE.

When you discover Farmers Petroleum Oil Heat, you'll discover why it's our hottest bargain... and why it's your hottest buy in heating.

In ECONOMY, oil heat will match or exceed the lowest cost of other fuels.

Oil heat matches the CLEANLINESS of other fuels.

It is the SAFEST, most accident-free of fuels.

With your supply right in the tank, oil is DEPENDABLE, free from low pressure problems.

Simple oil heating equipment is PRACTICAL, lasting for years in any age or style of home.

A Farmers Petroleum COMFORT CONTRACT keeps your tank filled all winter long automatically with heating costs spread over a 12-month budget period.

And Farmers Petroleum gives you around-the-clock BURNER SERVICE nearly everywhere.

Finally, Farmers Petroleum assures you of an abundant fuel oil supply without the shortages that may occur in natural gas this winter.

Where Your Farm Comes First

FARM BUREAU

Where Farmers Come First

FARMERS PETROLEUM

I would like to know more about your Heating Oil. Please have one of your "nice guy" delivery men call on me with information on your product, services, prices, discounts, etc. Then if I am convinced and order, he'll give me a "nice watch"... FREE.

Hein Meyering

Donald R. Armstrong has assumed the position of Executive Vice-President and General Manager of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., effective October 1. The announcement was made by Elton R. Smith, president, Farm Bureau Services, Inc., and Carl Heisler, president, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.

Mr. Armstrong has been with Farm Bureau since 1948. He has served as Vice-President of the Retail Division of Farm Bureau Services since 1966. He replaces William Guthrie who resigned to establish his own management consulting business in Chicago.

Governor's Task Force in Operation

The Governor's Special Task Force on the Future of Agriculture has been charged with several specific assignments. Governor Milliken appointed several of Michigan's agricultural leaders to the Task Force and specifically charged the Council to:

1. Review the current state agriculture in Michigan and articulate the problems of Michigan farmers.
2. To prepare specific administrative and legislative recommendations.
3. Focus the attention of all Michigan citizens on the agricultural dilemma.

The Governor asked that the Task Force consider itself action-oriented rather than study-orienting. He pointed out that the Rural Affairs Council has been assigned the task of seeking long-range solutions. He requested that this group concern itself with short-range proposals which can be put into immediate effect to provide Michigan agriculture with new vitality.

The Governor wishes to have the Task Force's recommendations by December 1, 1970, in order to properly include them in his Legislative program for 1971.

"Explore 70"

"Explore 70" is a career program for students and their parents. Answers will be given to questions such as: What training is needed after high school? What does it cost to go to college? What financial aid is available? Should I go to a community college? What careers are available in agriculture and natural resources? What high school preparation is needed? What kind of jobs are available after college or technical school education?

All meetings are scheduled to start at 7 p.m. Local vocational agriculture teachers and county extension agents have further information on the program.
Cherry Market Order Attacks Fluctuating Supplies
Improves Incomes and Expands Markets

It is very important that every tart cherry producer become familiar with the Market Order program for tart cherries. Informed cherry producers will take full advantage of the Market Order alternatives, according to Harry A. Foster, Chairman of the Cherry Division, MACMA.

The Market Order has as its major objective the stabilization of surplus tart cherries in those large production years, to be marketed as open market tonnage for the cash market, and be available for sale in the reserve pool or surplus tonnage. Surplus pool cherries will be stored in the form of frozen cherries and juice concentrates, depending on the nature of a production, each cherry producer has the option to participate in the reserve pool, or non-surplus, his surplus cherries.

Foster reports that the cherry producer is the owner of reserve pool cherries, and can sell his cherries to the reserve pool at any time. Reserve pool cherries are controlled by the Cherry Administrative Board, which consists of both cherry producers and processors, and processors elected at district meetings, will administer the program each year.

The Market Order Board will be able to dispose of the stored cherries during two ten-day periods each year—once in September and again in the spring of the year, between March 15 and June 1.

Foster notes that it is important to note that there will be a mandatory referendum conducted by the Secretary of the Market Order program. The Market Order can be terminated at any time by a producer referendum.

The proposed Market Order will increase profits for both cherry producers and processors in the eight-state area of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. The entire cost of the Market Order administration will be paid by the cherry processors.

The question has been raised as to what would have happened in 1970 had the proposed Market Order program been in effect.

The Market Order Board, in reviewing the entire crop and market situation, could have determined that quantities of tart cherries could be successfully marketed. With this knowledge, cherry producers would be able to dispose of their surplus cherries at the reserve pool under the 20 percent diversion privilege.

MACMA, which would have negotiated the full market value price to the producer.

But, as cherry producers will recall, the USDA estimated and announced a crop size of 313 million pounds of tart cherries to be produced this year. This estimate was instrumental in depleting the cherry market. Cherry supply, to retail outlets, was fixed, as orders for cherries, most cherry processors were under-financed, especially in 1969, raw product prices in the 7-8% range were paid to the cherry processors.

If the Cherry Administrative Board would have accepted the USDA estimate of 313 million pounds, the board could have determined that approximately 20% of the anticipated crop would be available as surplus cherries to the reserve pool. At that point, cherry producers would be able to dispose of the surplus cherries, whether they were willing to participate in the reserve pool.

If the grower elects to stay out of the reserve pool, he will remain somewhat uncertain as to what his cherries in the cash market will achieve, and 20% of the grower's cherry crop that would be made available to the reserve pool.

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AFBF PLANS FINALIZED

The Reverend E. Hermond Westmoreland, pastor of the South Main Baptist Church of Houston, will give the address at the Vesper Service of the American Farm Bureau Federation’s 1970 annual meeting Sunday afternoon, December 6, in Houston.

The Vesper Services will be held at 3 p.m. in the Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts in the Houston Civic Center.

First general session of the annual meeting will be held Monday morning, December 7, in Sam Houston Coliseum in the Civic Center. Charles B. Shuman, president of the Federation, will address the opening session. Monday afternoon will be devoted to conferences, including the American Farm Bureau Women’s Committee, organization, marketing, natural resources, insurance, and open session of the resolutions committee.

AFBF Annual Meeting in Houston in December. The 2540 Michigan Farmers quit last year

MICHIGAN FARMS (1950-1970)

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Since the 1964 Farm Census, it is estimated that Michigan lost an additional 12,700 farms. That’s an estimated 2,540 per year.

During the same period a dramatic change in farm efficiency and output took place. Look at this farm breakdown of sales and percent of total:

Sales Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Farms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1959 Farms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964 Farms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $20,000 yearly sales</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $19,999 yearly sales</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000 to $9,999 yearly sales</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under $5,000 and other</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More and more farmers are finding that the supply service and marketing help they can get from Farm Bureau is the best way to stay on top. Farm Bureau’s competitive prices and discounts help you plan for profit all the way from planting to marketing. Get all the facts now. Talk it over with your local dealer or write: Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Lansing, Michigan 48904.

Notes From All Over...

Four Farm Bureau farms will be a part of the Clare County dairy farm tour November 5 from 9:30 to 3:30 p.m. George MacQueen, Clare Co. Extension Director and tour coordinator, reports the William Walters farm, 3550 E. Brown Road; Dick Hermond, 1536 S. Brand Ave., Penrose Dairy Farm, 7901 Beaverton Road and the Westworth Farm, 3212 E. Surrey Road, will be hosts. Free stall barns, vertical feed storage, liquid manure tanks and many other innovations will be highlights of the tour.

The book, “Food From Farm to Home” is geared to give a better understanding of American Agriculture (and its many contributions) to children, ages 10 through 14. The book is the “brainchild” of the American Farm Bureau Federation. The AFBF wanted to get the story of Agriculture to the non-farm family and through the writings and illustrations of Walter Buehr, feel that it has been accomplished. Walter Buehr writes about the pioneer farm and the improvements over the past years. He tells how crops are planted and harvested — the use of irrigation, pesticides and what the farm of the future may be like. Michigan Farm Bureau’s Regional Representatives have copies of the book and will be happy to “show and tell” about it. If your county has a “book” chairman — or a committee — please have them contact your Regional Representative or the Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau. The book could find its “home” in your home — in the library or classroom.

Edsel Brewer, manager of the Chesaning Farmers Elevator since 1955, has been appointed district manager for the Retail Division, Farm Bureau Services, Inc., according to Helen Meyering, vice-president, F.B.S. Retail Division. Mr. Brewer will assume his new position November 2. He began his elevator work at the West Branch Farmer Elevator Co. in 1947, worked as assistant manager at Caro Farmers Elevator Co. and was manager at the Sterling Branch of F.B.S. until 1955.

Thomas Larmer, assistant manager at Chesaning Farmers Co-op, has been appointed to the managers position, effective immediately. Tom was manager of the Sterling branch of F.B.S. from 1959 to 1961 and the rest of his elevator experience (from 1951) has been with the Chesaning Farmers Co-op.

It’s Getting To Be A Habit!

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS... farm good habits. For the second consecutive year, all counties have made a membership goal as well as AFBF quota. Chuck Burke, Mgr., Field Operations Div., center, happily points out this fact to AFBF Sec.-Mgr. Dan Reed, left, and MFB president Elton Smith, right.

Let’s Fill the Plane To Texas

There are still a few empty seats on the plane to the AFBF Annual Meeting in Houston in December. The plane leaves Lansing on Saturday, December 5, and returns on Wednesday, December 9.

Here’s what you will see. The AFBF Annual Meeting is always a thrill. You will hear exciting nationally-known speakers. You will feel a pride in your organization. Yes, and you can see the Ohio Farm Bureau receive the Laurels Award, and the Sterling Branch of F.B.S. from 1959 to 1961 and the rest of his elevator experience (from 1951) has been with the Chesaning Farmers Co-op.

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GOVERNOR HOSTS AG LEADERS

GOV. WILLIAM MILLIKEN ... and Mrs. Milliken (left) were hosts to several Michigan agricultural leaders and their wives at their Traverse City home late in September. Among the Farm Bureau leaders attending were Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bull, Bailey and Mr. and Mrs. Elton Smith, Cadillac. Gov. Milliken discussed the plans he intends to incorporate in his 1971 agricultural program and the purpose of the "Task Force on the Future of Agriculture". MFB Sec.-Mgr. Dan Reed is chairman of the Task Force.

CHARLIE IN GERMANY!

CHARLIE BAILEY (RIGHT) DOES GET AROUND ... and for those who do not know who Charlie Bailey is ... Well ... Since leaving Michigan Farm Bureau, Mr. B. is working as an Associate Editor for The Farm Quarterly. (He was formerly Director of Education and Research and photographer at MFB.) Charlie recently visited the swine breeding farm of the Grub Agricultural Experiment Station near Munich, Germany. Dr. Gottfried Averdunk, (left) professor of animal breeding at the Grub station and Renz Weichkaserei, Weinfelden, Switzerland, accompanied Mr. Bailey on the tour. Renz, a Swiss farmer doing graduate work with Dr. Averdunk, markets 800 hogs on his family Swiss farm. Dr. Averdunk uses Hampshire hogs crossed with European breeds. These "Hamps" were exported by the Illinois Produce International, an affiliate of the Illinois Agricultural Association.

CO-OP MANAGER'S EXCHANGE DAY

TERMED A SUCCESSFUL DAY ... was the first annual Managers Exchange Day sponsored by the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives. About 35 managers participated in the program designed to have managers from one affiliate learn something about another affiliate managers' job. While several managers exchanged out-state, Farm Bureau Insurance Group hosted four managers at the home office. Left to right are Art Romig, St. Johns Cooperative Co.-manager; Don VerWest, Economist, McDonald Cooperative Dairy Company; Burt Moran, Manager, Portland Cooperative; LA Cheney, Exec. Sec., MACC; Nila Vermillion, Exec. Vice president, Farm Bureau Ins. Group; John Shuto, Public Relations Coordinator, Insurance Sales and Arnold Musolf, Manager, Lansing Production Credit Association.

CANADIAN VISITORS

EIGHT CANADIAN FARMERS ... all Co-op members, visited Thumb and Saginaw Valley dairy and beef farms and the grain Co-op and grain terminal early in October. The Co-op group from Hensall, Ontario, Canada, included the Karl Howard farm on their tour.

POTATO FESTIVAL

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS ... from Montcalm and neighboring counties joined in a "Friendly Welcome to the First Annual Edmore Area Potato Festival" in late September. For three days — the potato was king. There was a kiddie carnival, horse shows, farm tours and Potato Pancake dinners were served at noon to several hundred guests. Farm Bureau members donated their time and trucks to take people on the potato farm tours.

VOC. EDU. MOBILE UNITS

GOV. WILLIAM MILLIKEN, (CENTER); Supt. of Public Instruction John W. Porter (left) and Bd. of Education member Peter Oppewell, (right) viewed the three mobile units recently put into use by the State Department of Education. They are equipped with guidance and testing devices and are on the "educational circuit" in the Intermediate School Districts of Gogebic-Ontonagon, Eastern Upper Peninsula and Charlevoix-Emmet. The units climax a three-year project initiated by the Michigan Dept. of Education with the assistance of the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission. The three units will service 30 local school systems and some 12,500 students. Students will have the opportunity for individual (from trained, experienced counselors) counseling and testing, small group discussions and career-film viewing. Total budget for the three year project is $341,000. Costs are being shared by the Great Lakes Commission, the intermediate school districts, and federal funds under the Vocational Education and National Defense Education Acts.
In Michigan:
- Serious crimes numbered 3,075.7 per 100,000 persons.
- In the past 5 years, major crime has increased 99.5%.
- Crimes, both against persons and property, have increased by 19%.
- Handguns, or pistols, were involved in 53% of the murders.
- 74% of the homicide victims were 25 years of age or older.
- Juveniles represent 15.9% of Michigan's population.
- 42.9% of the apprehensions of the category of criminal homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft are juveniles.
- Narcotic apprehensions of juveniles have increased from 61 in 1965 to 963 in 1969.
- 187 of these narcotic apprehensions were under 15 years of age, nine of which were 10 years old or under.

These are just a few of the statistics available in the Michigan Law Enforcement Official Report on Crime, 1969 compiled by the Michigan State Police. So many of the statistics about crime and how they compare—whether up or down—may indicate a more-or-less efficient reporting system.

It is interesting to note, however, that the 1969, Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics show Michigan a leader in rural area crime in robbery with 179 cases reported, burglary with 10,395 cases reported; larceny with 6,259 cases reported and auto theft with 1,403 cases reported. Other reports also indicate that there is a growing rate of snowmobile theft in our rural areas.

(Discussion groups listening in on the discussion tapes provided by the Michigan Farm Bureau Broadcasting Department will enjoy further facts about law and order in our rural countryside.)

Other statistics of urban and rural crime are included in your discussion leader's information packet.

**A COMPARISON OF OFFENSES REPORTED IN URBAN AREAS 1965 THROUGH 1969**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Negligent Vehicular</td>
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<td>230</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>262</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
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<td>413</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>439</td>
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<td>Larceny</td>
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<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<td>1,784</td>
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<td>2,103</td>
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<td>Tows</td>
<td>25,671</td>
<td>30,652</td>
<td>36,412</td>
<td>36,906</td>
<td>39,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reason for Towing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Traffic</td>
<td>23,911</td>
<td>28,950</td>
<td>34,490</td>
<td>35,012</td>
<td>37,119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>1,760</td>
<td>1,702</td>
<td>1,922</td>
<td>1,994</td>
<td>1,894</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grounds</td>
<td>9,361</td>
<td>11,202</td>
<td>14,600</td>
<td>16,194</td>
<td>16,277</td>
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<td>Country</td>
<td>16,310</td>
<td>18,450</td>
<td>21,812</td>
<td>20,728</td>
<td>22,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>33,284</td>
<td>39,458</td>
<td>49,212</td>
<td>51,824</td>
<td>55,244</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>72</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>47</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
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<td>2,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
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<td>2,982</td>
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<tr>
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<td>40</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>76</td>
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**DISCUSSION TOPIC**

19,365 Burglary Cases In Michigan Last Year.

What are some of the answers to rising crimes, or are there answers? A visit with Lt. Col. Melvin G. Kaufman, newly appointed acting director of the Michigan State Police, offers some insight into the issue of law and order.

Lt. Col. Kaufman, 52, and in his 31st year with the department, represents 61 state police posts throughout the state. He said petty larceny—unless citizens witness the theft, is most difficult for police to stop. Cattle rustling is another area where there are no identifying marks on the livestock and no witnesses, there is little that can be done.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that larceny is a crime of opportunity and in most instances the value of the property stolen is a matter of chance. Many of these crimes could be prevented, it reports, if citizens used appropriate precautionary measures to safeguard their property. With the opportunity for theft removed, so is much of the temptation.

But, Kaufman said determinedly, "We never recommend someone taking the law into their own hands. In some rural areas the farmers have installed bright mercury lights. I think this is a deterrent. We've noticed in high crime areas that these have sort-of been a deterrent. But we certainly shouldn't want anyone to take the law into their own hands. We have 61 police posts throughout the state along with county and local police, so normally, the police are not far away and a phone call will reach them with quick reaction."

Much progress needs to be made to effectively reduce crime, rather than just to enforce the laws. One of these areas emphasized by Kaufman is more effort should be made to speed up the process of the court system and to build in more clearly defined judgments among all the counties of the state. He indicated that when courts vary in decisions of like cases from one county to another, then the policeman's job becomes even more difficult to enforce the law.

On the other hand, Kaufman said that crime reduction can be successful in many areas just by citizens being more attentive to their actions. Being sure to lock up his place of business, when closing, being sure to lock the home before leaving and not forgetting to take the keys from the ignition of the car before leaving it, can retard temptation and curb crime.

Kaufman said citizens really can do a lot more to get involved with helping the police. "One reason they don't," Kaufman offered, "may be because they fear retaliation, or because it is time consuming in courts—where folks go two or three times just to have the case postponed." But, he said, until people get deeply involved and are willing to make some sacrifices, I don't believe we're going to make much of a dent in crime."
MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
November 1, 1970

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---

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